

Prof. R. C. Sharpinski
8-6-1926

MICHIGAN HISTORY MAGAZINE

VOL. IX

JANUARY, 1925

WHOLE No. 30

MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM G. HAAN

BY LEROY PEARSON

LANSING

IT IS with profound sorrow that I record the passing of Major General William G. Haan, who commanded the 32nd Division, U. S. Army, composed of troops of the Michigan National Guard and Wisconsin National Guard, during its organization and throughout all its battles in France during the World War. General Haan died in the City of Washington, D. C., at 11 o'clock, Sunday evening, October 26, 1924.

Born at Crown Point, Indiana, October 4, 1863, he entered the United States Military Academy from his native state on June 14, 1885; was graduated therefrom and commissioned a second lieutenant in the First Artillery, U. S. Army, on June 12, 1889. When the United States entered the World War, General Haan was a Colonel in the Army and in command of the coast defences around New York. On August 5, 1917, he was commissioned a Brigadier General in the temporary forces and assigned to command the 57th Field Artillery Brigade, the Artillery Brigade of the 32nd Division. Soon after the Division began to assemble at Camp McArthur, Waco, Texas, Major General James Parker, who had been assigned by the War Department to command it, was ordered to France with a number of other division commanders to observe the training and operations in the French and English armies. General Haan, being the Senior Brigadier General in the Division,

assumed command upon the departure of General Parker. This occurred early in September, 1917, before all the troops of the Division had arrived at Waco and consequently a great amount of work of organization and instituting the training, fell to General Haan.

From the moment he assumed command, he instituted a strenuous and aggressive training program to fit the officers and men for the campaign which the Division was about to enter. No detail escaped his notice. He not only faced the problem of training the units to fight but also the training of his staff. He relates that during the early period at Camp McArthur, he had to devote 70% of his time to the administrative work of the Division, which in a well trained organization is normally handled by the staff. After the fighting was over, he said that he found it necessary at times during the period at Waco, to be a "little rough," which he regretted but believed necessary for the good of the organization. By this he meant, exacting a very strict discipline and requiring the attention of his subordinates to the very smallest details. When riding about the Camp, he noted the slightest non-compliance with orders and regulations. So persistent was he in the correction of these matters, that it was only a few days after he assumed command that there was not only a high regard and respect for his command and ability but there is no doubt but what there was an actual fear of his authority. During this training period, he took every opportunity to keep before the eyes and minds of the officers and men, the fact that the 32nd Division was going to fight. This was quite a problem at first, because it was generally in the minds of the people of the United States that the War would be over before the American troops could be trained and sent to Europe.

Soon after the assembly of the various units from Michigan and Wisconsin and the training commenced, there was a display of friendly rivalry between the organizations from the two states. Reveille was, as is usual in an army camp, early



MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM G. HAAN



in the morning, and at this time of year the hour was generally long before sunrise, and through the darkness of the early morn the bands of the Wisconsin organizations could be heard playing "On Wisconsin" and the Michigan bands endeavoring to drown them out with "Michigan, My Michigan." This was only a part of the friendly rivalry between units as each tried to excel the other in their formations at drills, parades and other exercises. While this friendly rivalry was unharmed, still the General realized that the Division must be moulded and the officers and the men should be taught to think of the 32nd Division as a unit rather than as troops from Michigan and Wisconsin. And so he encouraged the formation of a foot-ball team. This team was made up of the best talent drawn from all organizations, and when the divisional team was finally selected it was made up of men who had played on Michigan and Wisconsin university teams and other well known college elevens. To support this team in its games with teams from other divisions, the General directed the organization of a divisional band. This brought together the bands from all regiments in the Division, and for this band a 32nd Division march was composed. At the games this monster band, with the entire Division marched to the stadium to root for the team, and this, it is believed by many, was one of the principal factors in moulding the Division. From the beginning its foot-ball team won battles as the Division later won its battles against the enemy.

General Haan's orders were always clear, brief and direct. While at Camp McArthur on one occasion, it is recalled that some distinguished visitors were expected, which meant a review. The General sent for one of his staff officers and instructed him to prepare a plan and get out the order. This officer spent a day or more in preparing a large diagram of the ground to show where the troops would place themselves in preparation for the review, and formulated a detailed order

of considerable length. This plan was carrying out on an enlarged scale existing regulations which had been used for battalions and regiments. Such a plan was practicable for small units, but for a division it would have required the troops to be in position and to stand in line for several hours before marching past the reviewing party. When this plan was presented to the General, he at once disapproved it, turned to his stenographer and in five minutes dictated an order containing not more than a dozen typewritten lines, which was so clear that any corporal in the Division could have carried it out. The review was held according to that order. It started promptly on time, was executed as though the troops were doing it daily, and no unit was away from its company street more than thirty minutes.

In the latter part of December 1917, General Parker returned from France, but almost immediately after arriving at Camp McArthur he was transferred to the 85th Division at Camp Custer and General Haan was made permanent commander of the 32nd. Soon orders arrived to proceed to France, and early in January the first elements were started on the long journey. When General Haan arrived in France, he learned that his Division, which was the sixth to arrive, had been made a replacement division. A replacement division meant that the officers and men would be transferred from time to time to other divisions in the front line. In the meantime, the organizations were being used as labor troops in the service of supply. This was indeed a depressing outlook. The day after General Haan arrived at the divisional area in France, he instituted steps to have the Division assembled and given further training and be made a fighting unit. He proceeded to the headquarters of the army corps to which the 32nd belonged to obtain the permission of the Corps Area Commander to go to General Pershing's Headquarters to file his request. It is the belief of the writer that had it not been for the aggressiveness and convincing appeal presented

by General Haan, his persistent and untiring efforts, that the 32nd would have remained a replacement division, its identity would have been lost and the gallant service of the Michigan and Wisconsin troops would never have been recorded in history. When General Haan arrived at the Corps Headquarters, the distinguished general in command whose division had only shortly before been made a replacement division, listened to his plea and said that while he desired to do all he could, he did not believe it would do any good to go to General Headquarters. To this General Haan replied, "Nevertheless, I wish to try." He obtained permission to go to Chaumot and immediately proceeded thereto and laid his request before General Pershing's staff. It was General Haan's idea that a division such as the 32nd which had been so well trained as a divisional unit having such a fine divisional spirit, with officers and men knowing and having confidence in each other and doubtless able to conduct itself with credit in battle, should not be lost to the fighting line.

Nothing came of this request at the time and the General was given but little encouragement. He returned to his headquarters, called his officers in conference and without disclosing his own personal disappointment, told the officers assembled that replacement units were necessary, that we had trained one set of men to fight and could train another; that if it was our lot to do our part in the War by training men to fight instead of fighting ourselves, then it was up to us to put our whole heart and soul into the effort. The General never gave his officers any reason to believe that there was any way out of it but nevertheless he continued his efforts, presenting facts and figures to General Headquarters and pressing his request that the Division be placed in the fighting line. Finally, one night about 11 o'clock, an officer arrived from General Pershing's Headquarters to obtain additional information about the Division. General Haan had the regimental commanders assembled, and long through the night

the status of equipment, strength, etc., was gone into very thoroughly. Soon afterward, word came that the Division was to be sent to the defensive sector of Alsace Lorraine. Arriving in Alsace in May 1918, it was learned that the 32nd was the first American Division to be sent to that area, and as the line between the opposing forces had been early in the war advanced into German territory, the Division had the distinction of being the first American force to set foot on German soil. Soon the elements of the 32nd were sent into the front line to relieve the French troops and gradually the American soldiers were given actual training in contact with the enemy. Not only were the men in the front line trained, but the staff of the 32nd was trained and instructed by the staff of the French Division, until finally the whole line was turned over to General Haan's command including the command of the French Division, the first time in history that an American officer had been given such an honor.

The work assigned to the officers and men was entirely new to them. It is doubtful if any man from General Haan down to the newest recruit had ever before been assigned such tasks. There was constantly the fear, especially among the officers, that if they made a mistake or displayed a lack of ability they would be relieved and sent to the rear. All who came in contact with General Haan during this period, as well as through the training period in America, will testify to his absolute fairness and to his encouraging helpfulness. The writer is of the opinion that many an officer was afraid to say, "I do not know," when asked certain questions, for fear his inability to answer would disqualify him for the position he held. Naturally a great many tried to "bluff" through. This however was always detected by General Haan, by the way in which the officer would usually answer. He insisted upon obtaining facts and he was never satisfied when an officer answered to one of his questions that he "thought" certain things or that he "guessed" so and so. One of his

phrases will always be remembered by those who knew him, and that was, "When a man is in doubt, he don't know."

One day an officer reported that he thought an aeroplane had been shot down. It was not an official report, merely a story of what he thought he had seen. When the General heard it, he asked for details, where the plane had fallen, etc. The officer had seen the puff of smoke from the projectile of the anti-aircraft gun close to the plane, which immediately from appearances began falling and soon afterward disappeared. The fall was simply a stunt performed by the aviator to quickly get away from the range of the anti-aircraft gun. Called upon to give exact details and the verification of the destroyed plane, the situation proved extremely embarrassing to the officer concerned because he could never get any further information. Every one who heard of the story learned an important lesson about rumors and facts.

Another story may here be related as to the General's desire for facts and frankness. When the order arrived for the Division to join General Mangin's Army, he sent for the writer and instructed him to take an interpreter and proceed by automobile to locate General Mangin's Headquarters and obtain his instructions. Time was important and I proceeded with all possible haste to find General Mangin. As this was the first mission of this kind I had been sent on, I did not have a very clear idea of all the information I ought to obtain. After driving several miles and obtaining directions from various French officers, the Headquarters was located and within a few moments I was handed a written order. This order merely gave the date when the 32nd Division was to join and where it would be billeted prior to being placed in the line. It was necessary for me to obtain all information as to roads, maps, condition of the country, etc., by asking questions through the interpreter. So hurried was the trip and so urgent the necessity of returning to the headquarters of the 32nd Division with the orders so the troops

could commence moving early the next morning that I overlooked finding out where the rail-head was to be,—the rail-head being the point to which the supplies for the Division would be shipped. Upon my return I made a written report to General Haan. On the way back, realizing that I had failed to find out about the rail-head, said nothing about it



SCENE, ARGONNE FOREST, NEAR ROMAGNE

"Indentation," result of terra firma having come into violent contact with a "240." Gen. Haan and Col. Pearson standing above.

in the report as I planned to find out from other sources and make a report of it later. When I presented the report to the General, I stood beside his desk while he read it, and the first question he asked after reading it was, "Where is the rail-head?" I replied, "General, I forgot to ask." Failure to obtain such an important piece of information would ordinarily call for a severe reprimand and possibly sending me

back over the same long road to get it. However, I believe that my frankness saved such a reprimand because all he said was, "All right, make a note of it and do not forget it the next time."

When the 32nd Division went into the line north of Chateau Thierry and was engaged in battle, the Corps Commander telephoned to General Haan that General Pershing was very much concerned in the successful offense of the 32nd and of its ability to take a certain hill, because its success was of vital importance to the organization of the first American Army which General Pershing was at that time trying to get the foreign command to allow him to organize. So confident and so thoroughly did General Haan believe in the ability of his men that he answered the Corps Commander by saying, that if the organization of the American Army depended on that action, the organization could begin that night.

After this conflict and since the War, the General has often stated that the possibility of failure in this first real offensive battle of the Division never entered his mind. So brilliantly and with such dash had the Division fought in this engagement that soon after being relieved from the line a request was received at American Army Headquarters from General Mangin to have the 32nd join his 10th French Army north of Soisson. So in the latter part of August 1917, the Division joined General Mangin and was the only American Division attached to that army in its attack toward Laon.

After one or two successful engagements which the French Commanders had taken occasion to acknowledge in official orders, the officers and men could easily have become boastful and probably rightfully so. However, this never occurred. Whether the men ever had such a thought or not is not known, but at least General Haan let it be understood that such was unfashionable and he always inspired the troops to co-operate with their neighbors and keep in mind their own job

and never to complain nor find fault with the neighboring Divisions. During the Argonne, it came to his attention that the officers and men while eager to press forward, regarded it as unfortunate that the flanks could not move up, and had made some criticism of the units fighting along side. When he heard of this, he issued a general order as follows:

"Bad habits are easily formed, and one of the worst that has come to the attention of the Division Commander is criticism of units that are fighting alongside of us. We frequently hear the remark that 'if the people on our right—or left—were able to go ahead, we could continue without any trouble.' Everyone must remember that everybody else is fighting as hard as he can, and if he could go ahead he would not wait for us to pull him along. Therefore, just put yourself in the other fellow's place, and make up your minds that he has just as hard a job as you have, and that he is trying just as hard to get ahead as you are, and perhaps by going ahead you can help him. Consequently, rather than to think of him, just try to get ahead yourself."

General Haan had a personality that inspired confidence, and when his men had accomplished important tasks, he made it a point to compliment them and explained the importance of their accomplishment. As an example of this, the following is quoted from his talk to the officers and non-commissioned officers assembled after they had been fighting for twenty days in the Argonne Forest:

"You men are to be congratulated upon the splendid success you have again achieved, in that you have taken every objective against which you were sent, and indeed, you have gone beyond. You are the first Division that succeeded in getting through the great Kriemhilde Stellung. You have just been through perhaps the greatest battle that has ever been fought in the world, and you were in the very center of that, and every one of you is glad of it. You are now located in a so-called 'rest area,' which, without doubt, is from every viewpoint the rottenest and worst in all of France, and you ought to be glad of that, because see what stories you can tell your friends when you get home, without the least exaggeration."

General Haan was not only a good fighter and a leader against the enemy but a good fighter for his officers and men. Commanding generals of the Regular Army were expected to depend more upon officers of the regular establishment than upon officers of the National Guard and the reserve, who naturally had not had the years of training of the regular,

and it was generally the belief that where an officer of the Regular Army and an officer from the National Guard were being considered for the same job, that the regular would be given the preference. If General Haan knew the officers at all, I do not believe he ever let this situation influence his action. Just before the Argonne Battle, one of his regiments was without a Colonel. The Lieutenant-Colonel of the regiment, a National Guard officer, had served with the organization for a number of years. He knew the regiment and the regiment knew him. Under the existing orders it was necessary for the division commander to requisition a Colonel to fill the vacancy, because he was without authority to promote the Lieutenant-Colonel even though he desired it. General Haan wanted to promote this Lieutenant-Colonel but was obliged to make the requisition as cited above. In answer to the requisition, a list of forty Colonels was sent him from General Headquarters from which to select a commander for the regiment. Most of the officers on the list were from the regular service, some of whom General Haan knew. Still he was not satisfied so he returned the list with the remark about as follows: "This list contains the names of many excellent officers, many of whom I know. No doubt, any one I should select could command this regiment satisfactorily, but I believe that Lt. Col. can command it better than any one of them and therefore, I want him promoted." The National Guard Lieutenant-Colonel was promoted and given command of the regiment, and the officer commanded it, as General Haan believed he could, with credit and distinction.

General Haan with all his other excellent qualities was human. He had a way of understanding the enlisted men and while he was a most exacting disciplinarian he nevertheless appreciated the temptations and unintentional mistakes of the soldier. It is recalled that when the Division returned home after the War, a soldier was arrested, tried by court-martial and found guilty of drinking to excess and

being out of quarters after taps. The findings called for punishment of the soldier but would not be effective until the findings of the court had been approved by General Haan. When the findings got to the General, he investigated the case and then disapproved the findings of the court and ordered the soldier restored to duty. The case was published in the newspapers and soon afterward when the General had occasion to make a speech before a gathering, he spoke of it and said he had disapproved the punishment of the man because at home coming celebrations of the Division he himself had been subject to the same temptations as the soldier, and because of the fact that the man had a good record and had performed honorable service during the War he did not believe in punishing him when he was about to return to his home.

Few if any other division commanders had the long and continuous service with their divisions as did General Haan with the 32nd. He commanded it from almost the beginning of its organization, throughout its training, in all its battles and for a considerable time on its march to the Rhine. He left it then only because he was promoted to the command of the 7th Army Corps. However, when the Division was ordered home, he was again given command and brought the organization home and commanded it until demobilization.

During the winter of 1918-19 while in Germany with the 7th Corps, the General often visited the 32nd near Coblenz. It was like a home coming. Unlike the early training days, this man was now more than the Commanding General,—through the strenuous weeks of preparation of 1917, more preparation and the hard fought battles of 1918, the officers and men of the Division had learned to know him and to love him. Although always loyal and in perfect accord with their new Commander, they liked to "talk things over" with the "Old Man"; he was one of them and he understood their problems, perhaps a little better than the new Commander. It was during these visits that plans were made for the organization

of the 32nd Division Veteran Association,—an association through which the men could be held together after demobilization and to perpetuate the memory of our dead comrades. The General's advice and counsel was sought regarding all the important details of this association. He insisted that payment of the initial fee of \$2.00 carry with it a life membership. That one idea has made the 32nd Division Veteran Association one of the strongest, if not the strongest veteran association organized by any divisional unit serving in the World War. There is no annual drive for dues and consequently there are no losses except by death. Today the membership of this association totals over 22,000. It has \$28,000 in its treasury and not one penny of indebtedness.

General Haan was decorated by the American Government with the Distinguished Service Medal with the following citation:

"This officer, in command of the Thirty-second Division, took a prominent part in the Argonne-Meuse Offensive and in the brilliant and successful attack against the Côte Dame Marie covering several days, which deprived the enemy of the key-point of the position. His clear conception of the tactical situations involved, showed him to be a military leader of superior order."

He was also decorated by the French Government as "Commander of the Legion of Honor" at Brest, France, in April 1919, just before sailing for the United States. The Citation reads as follows:

"He brilliantly commanded the 32nd Division during the operations that resulted in the recapture of the Chemin Des Dames, near Laon. Thanks to his tactical sense, to his conception of the maneuver, to his indomitable tenacity, to the magnificent courage of his troops, which put their absolute trust in their Chief, he gained several miles of ground. He took the important positions about Juvigny which the enemy defended with desperation."

General Haan had a brilliant record through all his service in the United States Army. He was promoted to the permanent rank of Brig. General in the regular establishment on November 30, 1918, and to the rank of Major General in the permanent forces on July 3, 1920. He was placed on the

retired list as a Major General upon his own request after 30 years of service March 31, 1922. He served on the General Staff from August 15, 1903 to August 14, 1906; from May 1, 1912 to September 15, 1914 and from August 20, 1920 to September 1, 1921. During this last period, he was director of the War Plans Division of the General Staff of the War Department. He graduated from the Army War College in 1905 and was placed on the initial General Staff eligible list December 16, 1920.

General Haan was buried near the Dewey Memorial in Arlington Cemetery on Wednesday, October 29, 1924, with full military honors. With the setting sun of the beautiful October day, taps sounded over the grave of another Red Arrow comrade—the 32nd adds another to its casualty list of over 14,000. This time it is the Chief. In his passing the Army loses a brilliant officer, the Nation a distinguished citizen and patriot and the Veterans of the 32nd Division their beloved leader and comrade.

THE FORD COLLECTIONS AT DEARBORN

A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF WHAT MAY BECOME THE GREATEST AGGREGATION OF
PIONEER AND HISTORICAL RELICS IN AMERICA

BY HENRY A. HAIGH

DEARBORN

AMONG the manifold activities and enterprises of Michigan's most active and enterprising citizen, Mr. Henry Ford, there is an important and very laudable one of which the public has, as yet, but little knowledge.

I refer to the collection of pioneer and historical relics which Mr. Ford is gathering from every available source and assembling mainly at Dearborn where they are being classified and preserved, and in due course will be suitably housed and placed on public view for the benefit of the people.

Great numbers of these articles are invaluable in point of rarity, merit and historical importance. Their collection upon the comprehensive scale contemplated by Mr. Ford has been begun most timely, for it is safe to say that such a collection cannot well be made again, nor could this one be continued upon the exhaustive lines intended excepting by one with intelligent foresight, undaunted determination, ample means, and willing agencies everywhere distributed and all cooperating for a common and beneficent purpose.

Though primarily inaugurated as a collection of physical objects illustrating the origin and progressive evolution of transportation facilities, as was quite natural with one whose life endeavor was at first devoted to the perfection of a transportation device, still it has now overlapped that limitation until it has by natural growth come to include more or less completed lines of specimens illustrating the progress of mechanical invention and achievement in almost every department of human interest.

This article is the first of a series of articles on the Ford Collection to be published in this Magazine.—*Editor*.

Wagon - 130 - 1800-1850

It is, I venture, not unsafe to say that if these Ford Collections can continue with their present intelligent and comprehensive selection and with their present prodigious volume of growth, they will in the progress of time become so multifarious as to present when properly classified and displayed a stupendous, progressive, panoramic exposition of mechanical achievement in the entire industrial, agricultural and domestic life of our people.

The pictures following this paragraph show some of the interesting specimens in the transportation section of the collection which at the present time is possibly the most significant and complete.



THE ONE-HORSE CHAISE

"Have you heard of the wonderful one-hoss shay,
That was built in such a logical way,
It ran for a hundred years to a day?"

If you have, it was a vehicle something like this. This chaise represents a Yankee improvement on the French chaise which was introduced into the Colonies by the Huguenots before 1700. The spring consists of a leathern strap, attached to two wooden brackets, on which the seat is perched. Two-wheeled vehicles were preferred in the bad state of the early roads.



FINE OLD GIG. COLONIAL PERIOD

Much like the gig used by Stephen Gerard, and now in the Museum of Gerard College, Philadelphia.



THE CALASH, OR CALECHE

This vehicle is noted for its strength and lines. It is still to be found in use in Quebec. It was a form of carriage thought very stylish by the Pilgrims who adopted its general lines. In fact, the influence of this shape of vehicle, with its big C springs, is to be found in several carriage types. "Calash" is also a name given to a style of bonnet the colonist women wore: it was like a miniature model of a calash cover top.



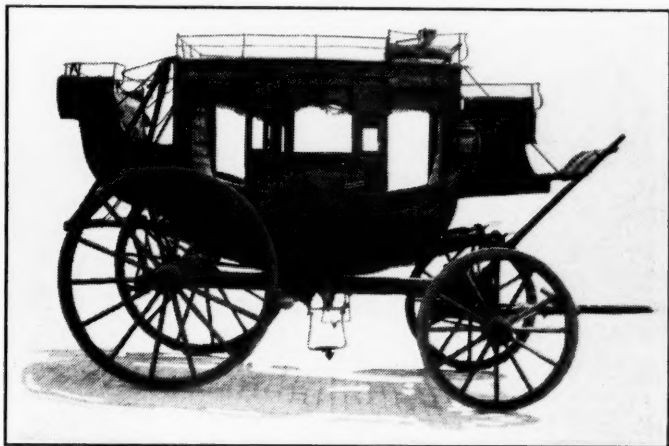
THE OLD MAIL COACH

Here is a fine specimen of the type used for passengers, baggage and mail. The provisions made for the "outside passengers" are on top. Notice the old-fashioned trunks. Readers of Dickens will see in this coach the exact type used by many of his characters, while boys who read Wild West stories will see in it the romance of the Plains.



THE CONESTOGA WAGON

This is the real "Covered Wagon," the "Prairie Schooner," whose original name is the Conestoga Wagon. It is a genuine American product and marked an era in American transportation comparatively as important as that marked by the locomotive. It served the patriots in the Revolutionary War, followed the first mountain roads out of the Eastern states, threaded the vast plains, crossed the Rockies and brought the earliest settlers to Oregon and California. It is in every sense a noble wagon and will well repay examination. At one time ten thousand of these wagons ran from Philadelphia to surrounding communities.



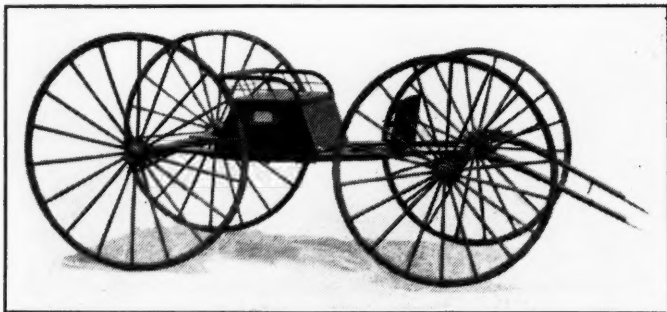
THE CONCORD COACH

This was once the latest word in passenger transportation. Note the strength of the leathern straps on which it is slung. Sixteen miles an hour was breakneck speed for these coaches and was never attempted except when some notable person was taking an important journey. The average speed was ten or twelve miles. Bill Noble carried President Madison's message from Wheeling to Hagerstown, a distance of one hundred and eighty-five miles, in fifteen and a half hours.



THE PENNSYLVANIA BUCKBOARD

Sometimes called "the Adam and Eve Wagon" because it was built for two. The only spring is in the two wooden arms on which the seat is fastened. This old buckboard appearing in the parade was used in early Pennsylvania days and its curved bed shows the influence of the Conestoga wagon, another Pennsylvania product.



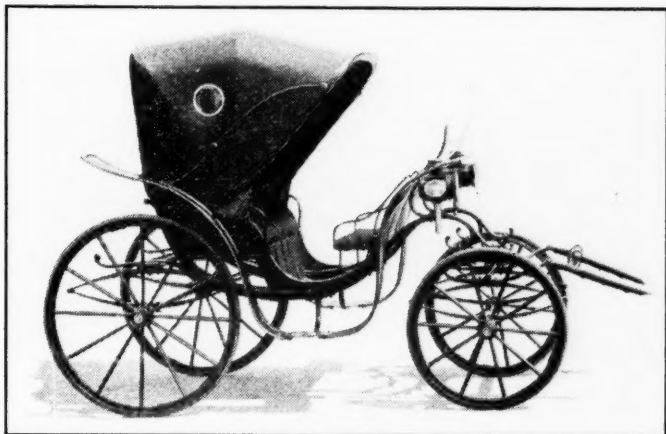
COMMON BUCKBOARD

This light vehicle was the beginning of the American spring wagon. The specimen has only such spring as the "give" of the floor boards allows, the boards being fastened flat to the axles. In later times elliptical springs were placed under the seat, and this use of springs gradually developed until it became the type of wagon which was familiar previous to the automobile period.



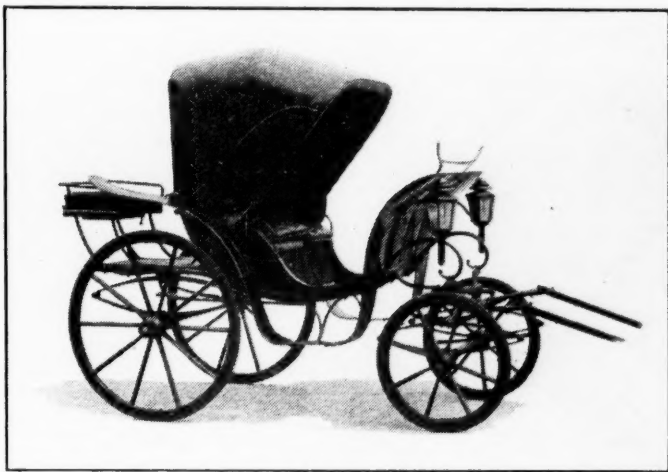
THE PHAETON

The phaeton type of carriage first appeared in England in 1745. It was recognized as the very apex of the style, named after a figure in mythology, and all the society prints and popular poets vied with one another in making it the symbol of good taste and prosperity. It was used solely for social purposes. Its appearance in America was made late in the eighteenth century.



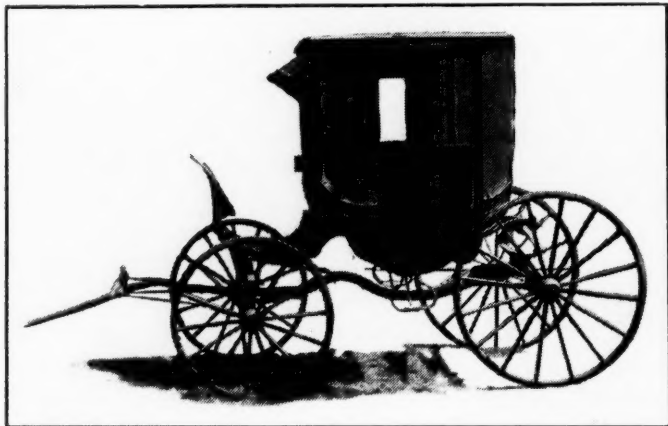
ANOTHER FINE SPECIMEN OF THE PHAETON

This fine specimen of the phaeton type was familiar during last half of the last century.



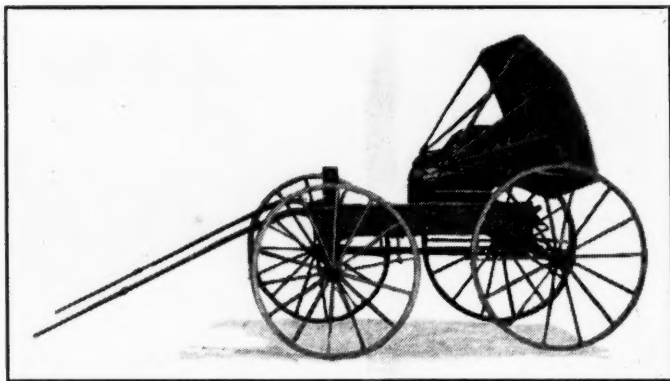
THE VICTORIA

Named after the British Queen, as having first appeared during her long reign. It is an evolution of the phaeton and retains the general style of calash top. Its exceedingly graceful lines made it an ideal ladies' carriage. The Victoria gained something from the advent of the bicycle, for rubber tires on horse-drawn vehicles were suggested by the tires of the safety bicycles. Several different specimens of the Victoria appear in the Ford collections at Dearborn.



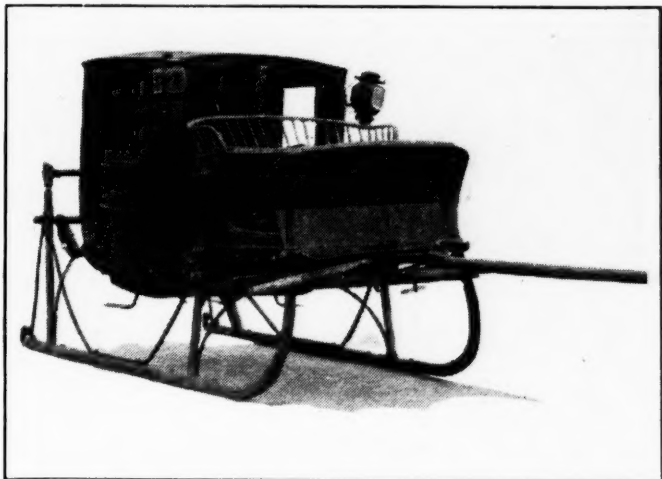
THE ROCKAWAY

This vehicle was made in Detroit about 1850 and has been the property of the Haigh family of Dearborn ever since. The Rockaway is driven to either one or two horses. It was considered a very graceful conveyance in its day. Donated to the Ford Collections.



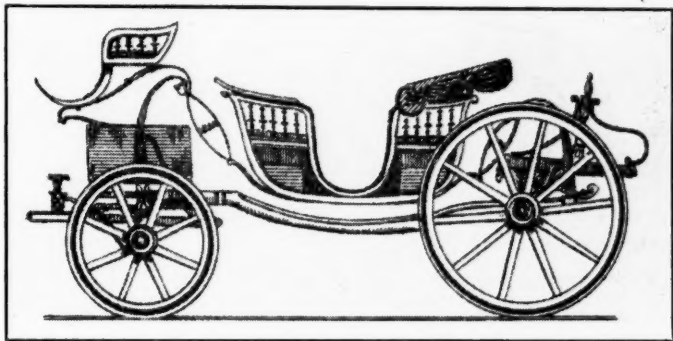
AMERICAN BUGGY

America eventually became the vehicle builder for the world. The American buggy, which was the evolution of various types of carriages, became as universal in its use as the American motor car now is. Tens of thousands of buggies were exported to all parts of the world. For trimness, lightness, style and durability, the American buggy may be said to be the queen of the horse-drawn passenger vehicle.



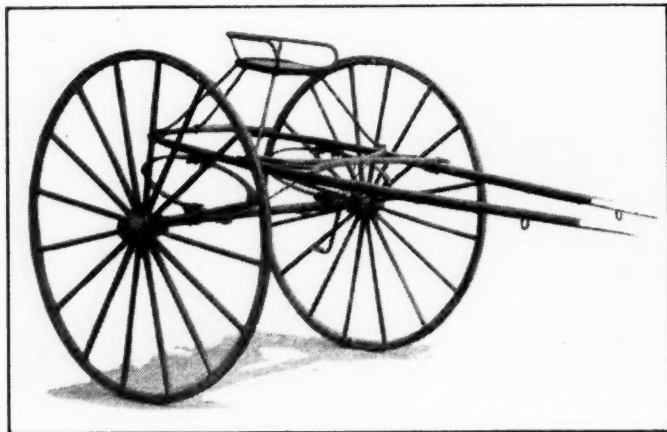
OLD COUPE SLEIGH

In fine condition. Early State-hood period. The collection contains many sleighs and cutters some of which will be shown in a subsequent article.



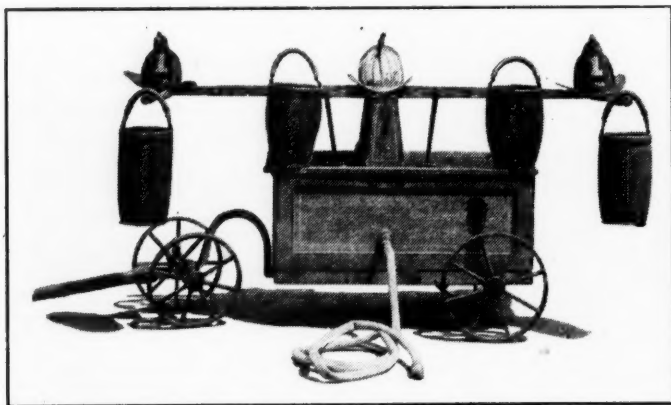
THE TWO-HORSE SOCIABLE

In Civil War times this vehicle stood at the top of the list of modern carriages. It is a development of the calash and chaise and four-wheeled types. In such a turnout as this Abraham Lincoln might have been seen on formal occasions in Washington, or Jay Gould rolling down Broadway. The coachman, usually a grand figure, with cockade and graceful whip, served as a public advertisement of the importance and social exaltation of the persons who rode within. In fact, the coachman carried the pomp of the family, and knew it.



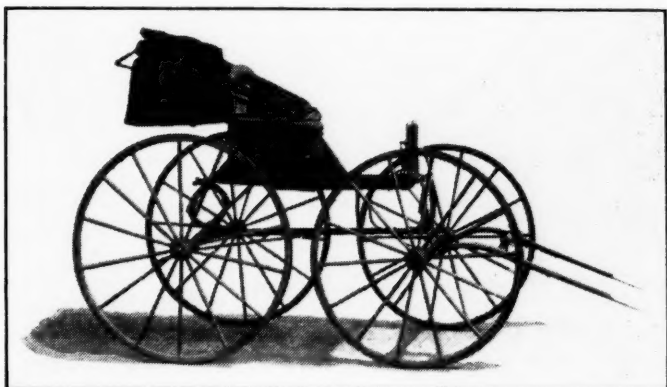
AMERICAN RACING SULKEY

Familiar type likely to remain for some time to come.



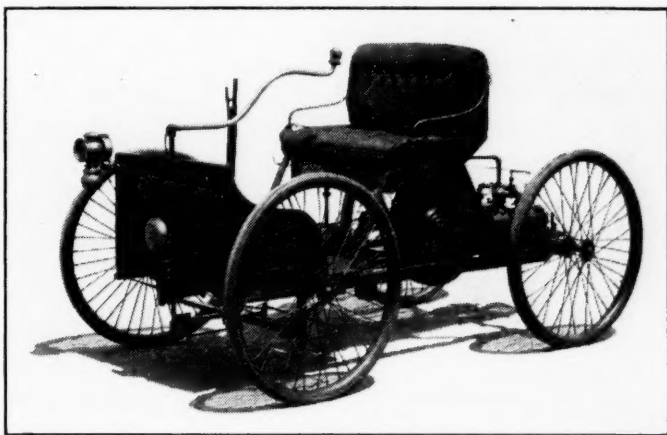
ANCIENT AND MODERN FIRE ENGINES

Fire was one of the earliest fears of our forefathers in America. The development of fire-fighting apparatus progressed farther and faster in America than anywhere else. The World War indicated that certain nations excelled in causing destruction by fire, but America's interest has been all the other way. The first fire fighters were volunteers and their fire engines were small hand pumps, like the little box-like one shown above. The little pump manned by two or four men grew to be a bigger pump manned by twenty or thirty men, until finally the steam fire engine appeared which multiplied horse power instead of man power. In the Ford Collections you will see both ends of the mechanical evolution of fire-fighting—from buckets to steam pumps.



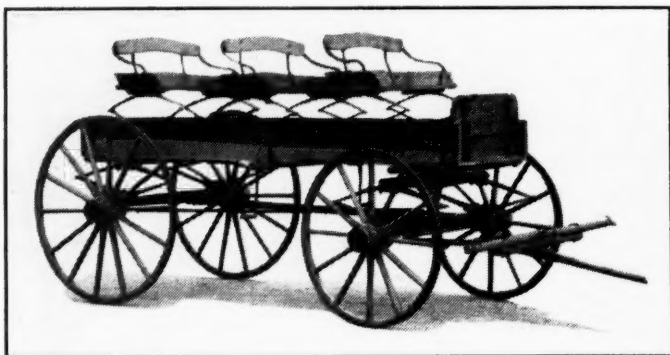
HIGH-BUILT DOCTOR'S BUGGY

So named because of its wide use by the medical profession and its general connection in the public mind with formal usage.



THE FIRST FORD

This famous forerunner of ten million motor cars is one of the gems of the Ford Collections at Dearborn. A great historical treasure. Since this car was made in 1894, what revolutionary changes have come to the world through transportation. Among the foregoing pictures of wagons and carriages, it seems a little thing; but the fact remains that in a few years after its appearance all the fine carriages and all the stout wagons were driven off the roads of the world by the motor car. For the first time in history private conveyances are available to all classes of people.



THE OLD DEARBORN BAND WAGON

The first Dearborn Band was organized in 1862. In its official band wagon, seen above, the band attended all patriotic occasions during the Civil War period and took part in the second Lincoln campaign. About 200 home guards, captained by Uncle George Ford, had the benefit of the band at drill on Saturday afternoons.

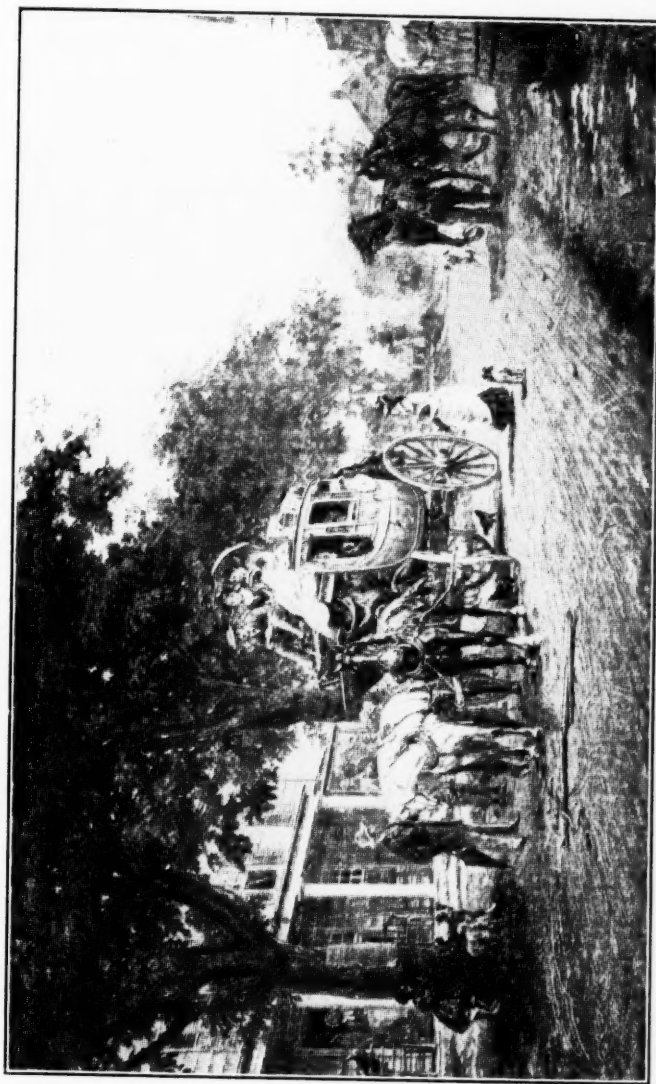
Not only is this the original band wagon, recently restored, but the identical bass drum and snare drum and one of the fifes used more than sixty years ago are being played in the band wagon today, and some of today's players are direct descendants of Dearborn's first bandmen.

The flag that was carried in the Dearborn procession last Fourth is that which was regularly carried by the band in the old days. Many a Fourth of July it has seen before the present generation was born.

The Personnel of Dearborn's first band was:

*Henry Ford—fife
Frank Ward—flute
Crawford Kennedy—snare drum
Byron Otes—bass drum
Johnnie Kennedy—alternate bass drummer

*Uncle of Mr. Henry Ford of Dearborn.



THE RELAY

This must have been a familiar scene in the palmy days of the Wayside Inn.

It will be observed that the foregoing illustrations are mainly of horse-drawn vehicles of the colonial and early statehood periods in which the exhibition is already generous.

All of these vehicles are in fine condition, some practically perfect and quite a number very elaborate and beautiful. Wherever any restoration has been found necessary Mr. Ford has used great care that the restored portion is an exact duplicate of the original, to the end that the specimens may be in no way misleading nor suffer any loss of accurate historical value.

The transportation section will doubtless be of greatest value and completeness in its exhibits showing the evolution in automobile construction. Already a fairly graphic view of self-propelled vehicles of the combustion engine type has been assembled, some of the specimens—such as original models worked out by Mr. Ford himself—being simply priceless in historical as well as in sentimental value. A cut of the first Ford car is given above. Illustrations of other objects in this division will accompany a subsequent article.

1. In addition to the department devoted to Transportation which I designate as No. 1., there are departments which I would classify in the order of their present importance about as follows:

2. A department devoted to the domestic, household and personal equipment of pioneer life. Exhibits in this department are already rich in numbers and quality. They include furniture, table-ware, dishes, crockery, glass-ware, kitchen paraphernalia, old prints and pictures, clocks, stoves, locks, lamps, lanterns and lighting devices, watches, wearing apparel, boots, shoes, tin, copper, brass and britannia-ware, pewter, bronze, lead and leather articles,—constituting well-nigh innumerable specimens mostly all in fine condition. There is also a fine collection of musical instruments that would belong in this household department.

3. A department devoted to agriculture, showing the mechanical evolution of farm machinery and implements used in out-door pioneer life. This department of the Museum is probably destined to become the most important of all, agriculture having been nearly the sole occupation of the pioneers, or at least the Michigan pioneers. The evolution of the plow, illustrated by numerous progressive exhibits, of threshing machines, from the crudest flail to the sturdy steam thresher, of harrows, rollers, seeders, loaders, spreaders and conveyors, and of garden tools in great variety, and the progressive growth of invention and adaptation in many other tools and labor saving devices, will be shown in due order for the student of mechanical achievement in these all-important lines.

4. A department of exhibits in the early industrial life of America, of mechanical devices such as the pioneers used when they branched off from agriculture into other avenues of activity as industrial life began; of building materials and building tools. This department may well include many of the numerous interesting articles brought into the collection for their specific significance, such for instance as the sap bucket made by President Coolidge's grandfather and presented to Mr. Ford on the occasion of his recent visit to the President's old home in Vermont.

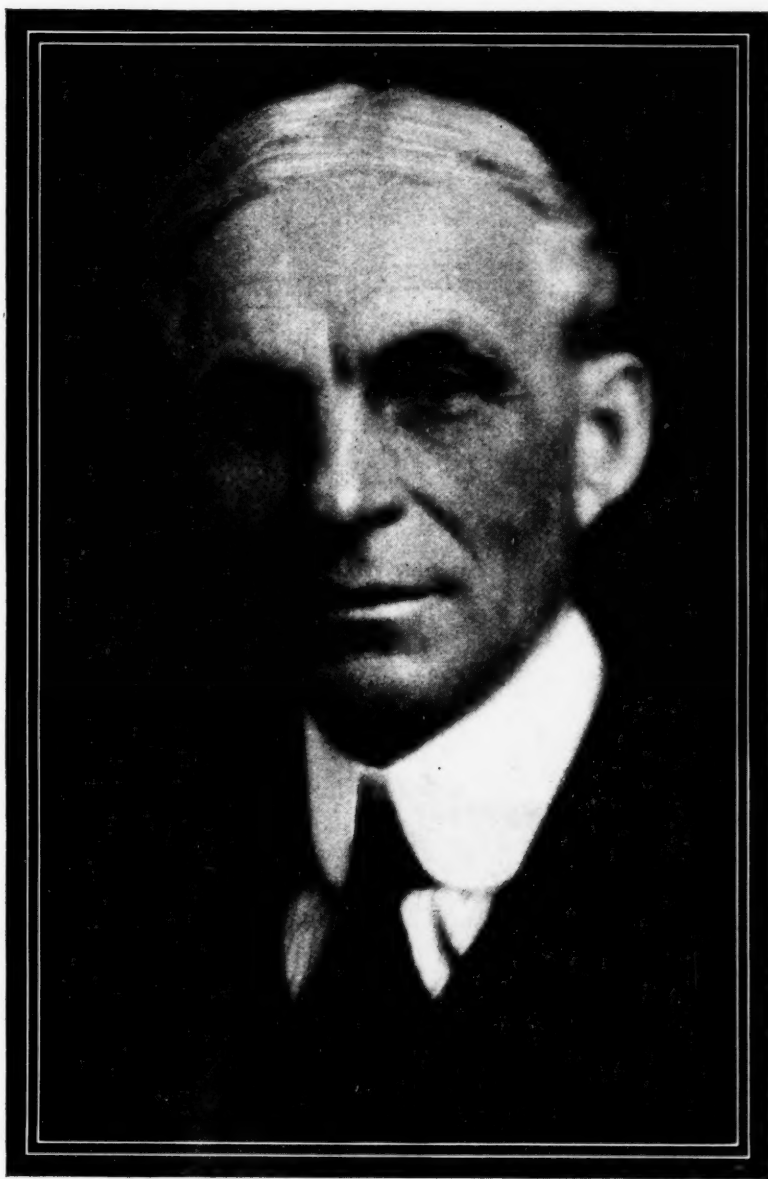
5. I do not know just how to classify the Wayside Inn, near Boston, the Botsford Tavern, near Detroit, the Burroughs Homestead in the Katskills and the old Ford Homestead in the Scotch settlement of Dearborn. They are wonderful relics of pioneer days. They are filled with priceless mementoes, and they are a part of the Ford Collections. They have been procured and are cherished by Mr. Ford and will be preserved by him and passed on, unchanged, to future generations. No other collection possesses such exhibits.

There is one class of mechanical appliances, which has been regarded as very important in human history, but which is not very largely represented in the Ford Collections. I refer to old swords, pistols and guns so much cherished by most collectors. Mr. Ford does not seem to care much for such things. There are some very fine and very curious specimens of old flint locks and rare old rifles and some shotguns used by the pioneers to shoot wild turkeys, wild pigeons, and other game food, but not many weapons for killing and but few for fighting can be found. No clumsy battle club or bludgeon of the stone age, no spear nor bow-and-arrow of a later period, nor any dirk or dagger, no armour, helmet, plume or mailed glove of our fighting ancestors, nor any cannon, nor other death-dealing device, has found lodgment within the peaceful precincts of the Ford Collections.

Mr. Ford never has liked the idea of taking human life and he thinks it as well to forget the things with which killing was done.

In walking through the several acres already covered by these collections, I saw nothing used solely for taking human life or inflicting torture. I did not so much as see a single mouse trap, or rat trap, or deadfall, or the cruel and heartless steel trap, in which so many millions of harmless creatures, our little brothers of field and forest, have gone down in agonizing torture to a dreadful death.

The world sets great store by its collections of antiques. The Museum is as old as the pagan temple and well nigh as sacred as the Christian Church. Indeed the very word "Museum" comes from the Temple of the Muses, where votive offerings of devout pilgrims were placed for preservation. The Temple of Astarte at Carthage, long before the time of Rome, had in it a collection of skins and other relics supposed to have been gathered from distant parts of Africa. The Museum of Ptolemy at Alexandria, still extant, was probably founded or inspired by Alexander the Great.



HENRY FORD OF DEARBORN
Founder of the "Ford Collections."

From a recent photograph. In his 61st year. Manufacturer, Philosopher,
Philanthropist. Loyal to his native land. Lover of all mankind.



So you see that the collection and preservation of interesting articles, of natural origin, or made by human hands, is not a new thing.

Originally collections of antiques and curiosities were of private ownership, gathered together by devotees for their own pleasure or the entertainment of their friends. Becoming important as means of instruction they were in some cases taken over by institutions of learning, or by governments, and developed into the modern Museums. Thus the "Cabinet" of Sir Hans Sloane became later the beginning of the British Museum; the great Oxford Museum grew out of the collections of Elias Ashmole; and the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons at London was based on material gathered together by the famous English Surgeon, John Hunter. One Arnold of Connecticut had a private museum at Norwalk which is spoken of by President John Adams, and the Peale family of Philadelphia had collections later given to that city. Magnificent Museums have flourished in Italy since the fourteenth century, that of the Vatican founded by Pope Julius II, and the great one at Florence founded by the Medici family.

But the great modern Museums are of recent date. The British Museum was founded in 1753, the Louvre at Paris in 1789, the Smithsonian at Washington in 1846, the National Museum at Washington in 1876 and the great Field Museum at Chicago in 1893.

Most Museums are devoted to the exhibitions of fine arts, or to science and natural history. There are between three and four hundred Museums in America. All but five or six are devoted to art, science and natural history. The largest collection of historical objects and devices of industry and mechanical construction is probably at the Cluny Musee in Paris. Our National Museum at Washington has very extensive departments devoted to mechanical objects illustrating the progress of inventive achievement in America.

There are of course many most interesting small museums in different parts of our country devoted to the collection of pioneer, colonial, territorial and other historical relics, which are serving an important educational purpose, one of the most useful and pleasure-giving of which is our own Pioneer and Historical Museum at Lansing so lovingly and entertainingly presided over by its efficient Curator, Mrs. Marie B. Ferrey.

I have referred at some length to the general subject of Museums, and to their collections, because as I looked over the Ford Collections at Dearborn, covering I should judge three acres of space, it became apparent that here were the beginnings of what in the natural course, if Mr. Ford's life is spared to continue and direct the work, will become the largest and most complete historical and mechanical Museum in America if not in the world. I wanted to place this project in perspective and to give a world-wide view of the importance of the work undertaken.

It is a most worth-while and laudable labor. It is the perpetuation and promulgation of unbiased indubitable human history. It places Mr. Ford in a somewhat new and very creditable light. He has been criticized and by some ridiculed for a saying, which he does not deny, that "History is bunk." By that he, of course, meant much of written history prepared with a bias and put forth for a purpose.

But here in these Ford Collections is true history. These relics of days that are gone tell only truthful tales. They cannot lie. They are mute, but they are eloquent. You have but to study them with care and use your imagination and there lies before you much of the actual, truthful history of the lives of the pioneers and of the people who have preceded us in this our beloved land.

At present these Ford Collections are located in the buildings formerly used as the Tractor Plant at Dearborn, before

that plant was moved to River Rouge, and they are so situated at the present time that they cannot well be on public view.

It is Mr. Ford's intention, when these collections are sufficiently complete, to have them suitably housed in an ample fire-proof structure of stone and steel, and of an architectural design analagous to the Ford Administration Building and Engineering Laboratory just being completed in Dearborn, a beautiful structure of the single story type, the kind that endures. The Museum Building will be erected possibly around a quadrangle, depending on the space required, and located on the Ford Estate in Dearborn at a point accessible and convenient for the public.

FIFTY YEARS OF MICHIGAN'S PROGRESS IN EDUCATION: 1873-1923

BY THOMAS E. JOHNSON

(State Superintendent of Public Instruction)

LANSING

IT IS perhaps but natural that I should, in getting material for such a discussion as this, turn to the reports of fifty years ago to discover the questions in which the school people of that period were interested.¹

Under the date of 1873, in running over the reports of the county superintendents to the state, I find many such statements as this: "I am not aware that any attempt has been made to enforce the compulsory school law, although notices have been regularly posted, and I do not doubt that it has had an influence to increase the attendance."² This appears under the head of discussion of compulsory school law. "I think said law has increased the attendance through fear of prosecution although there has been no enforcement of the law. A majority of those whom the law would affect are too poor to care for or fear the penalty. I am of the opinion that if the children of such parents could be taken and sent to a state school established for that purpose, the compulsory law would have a better effect."³

Another subject much discussed is the county superintendency which had been in operation just a few years. Another is the uniformity of textbooks for the same classes. A great effort was being made at that time for uniform textbooks for all the pupils of the same grade. From my own personal knowledge this had not been wholly secured some thirty years later when I began my work as a rural teacher.

Another question is that of equipment and record books, and another, teachers' institutes and associations. At that time the institute had not become an established feature.

¹Address, Semicentennial of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, Lansing, May 21-23, 1924.

²Elmer D. North, Ingham County.

³James H. Vincent, Lapeer County.

In speaking of school buildings, one superintendent, George A. Ranney of Kent County, comments that but few of the schoolhouses dispute with the highway the right of possession. From Iosco County Otis E. N. Cutchins comments on the movement to establish a Union school at East Tawas, the Union school being the first effort to bring the ungraded schools of the community into one graded building with a high school.

Many comment on the necessity for having competent teachers. One superintendent, James H. Vincent of Lapeer County, comments on the fact that he had had nineteen public and many private examinations for certification of teachers during the year.

Thus you see that already in 1873 people were talking about many of the same things which demand our attention today. In passing it might not be uninteresting to point out that the primary school fund distribution of that year amounted to \$76,193.14 and that the total expenditures, including amount on hand at the end of the year of \$309,821.60, were \$1,984,596.55.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction at that time was deeply concerned in grading schools and in preventing a repeal of the compulsory attendance law, so-called, and in securing three terms as opposed to one and two, which were all that had been held in many school districts.

In his annual circular letter calling for special information some interesting questions are found.* Among them might be mentioned a few other than routine questions: Was there an organized normal class during the years 1872 and 1873? If so, give the number of the class and the length of time the class received instruction. How many pupils in your school have studied United States History? How many have studied the Science of Civil Government? How many months

*Page 24, Briggs, 1873.

of school? How is the building seated, warmed, and ventilated? To what extent is your school supplied with illustrative apparatus (chemical, physiological, and other aids to instruction), and what is the cash value? Have you map drawing and vocal music in school exercises. Is the word method system practiced? Are diplomas awarded to the graduates?

It is interesting to note that of 311 such circulars sent out he received replies to 144 and secured 11 annual reports. Today if we do not receive our information by return mail we are much perturbed and such a situation seems amusing.

The State Normal School at Ypsilanti had opened twenty years earlier, and it is interesting to note that the state had provided \$3,250 for building purposes whereas the citizens of Ypsilanti and vicinity had donated a site and the sum of \$13,500. By 1873 the enrollment had become 329, of which 195 were in the common school course, 37 in the full English course, 42 in modern languages, and 54 in the classical course. 166 were doing practice teaching work. The remaining students were in the various preparatory departments. The total number of children in school is not reported but there were 400,064 children sharing in the primary fund distribution, and in the graded schools of the state there were 113,000 children enrolled.

Occasionally we find a moot question arising as to whether or not better work was being done by the men or women teachers. The consensus of opinion seemed to be that the women were doing better work than the men.

The University reported in all departments 1,176 students; the Agricultural College reported 143, of which 14 were special and three were resident graduates.

Considerable attention in this report was paid to the Kalamazoo High School case where some taxpayers filed a bill to restrain a collection of a portion of the school tax on the ground that the board had no right to establish a high school.

*H. Case in
Michigan*

In a very lengthy and careful opinion the court held that a high school was a proper part of the school system and the board had the right to establish such a school and employ a superintendent.

As I went through subsequent reports I found in the period immediately following 1873, a discussion of the same questions, but I was particularly interested in one county superintendent's report of 1874,⁵ in which he pointed out that many of the school districts were entirely too small. In Plymouth Township there were five districts with an average attendance of not over ten students. The average of one of them had been less than five, and he urged the consolidation of these districts. So far as I was able to discover, this was the first discussion of the need for consolidated schools.

We frequently find the lament that the teachers were without adequate preparation. It was not until 1881 that the teachers of Michigan were certificated by examination sent out from the state. The three-term system seemed to be growing, that is the length of the school year was being lengthened.

There seems to have been very little change in school conditions in Michigan between this time and 1881. There was a steady growth in the development of so-called union schools and the growth in population tended to bring up the total enrollment of the schools.

There was a type of supervision to be found in the person of a so-called township superintendent who was supposed to be giving some time to supervising the schools of the township. Obviously the people could not afford a full-time superintendent nor were they willing to pay much for part-time work, with the result that the work was rather poorly done. In 1879 we find Superintendent Gower making a strenuous campaign for a real system of county supervision and certification of teachers. This bore fruit in 1881 when the Legislature established a County Board of Examiners with

⁵George C. Gordon, of Wayne County.

a secretary who was to have charge of the certification of teachers. In addition the secretary was expected to do considerable work in connection with the supervision of the schools of the county.

By Act 164 the same year, the Legislature reorganized the primary school system of the state and also provided for the organization of the so-called graded districts. These took the place of the union school districts which had existed up to that time.

In the report of 1881 of the Honorable Varnum Cochran, who succeeded Superintendent Gower (Superintendent Gower resigned to take up other school work) he dwells at great length upon some of the things which have been accomplished by this act. When you remember that this was the first time that the state had ever had any uniform system of certification of teachers it is easy to realize what a revolutionary advance had been made. However, the secretary of the Board of Examiners did not begin to have the authority now held by the County Commissioner of Schools who succeeded him by legislation in 1891. A good many of the duties in the way of supervision which were later to come to this office were still held by the Board of School Inspectors long since legislated out of existence. In 1881 the chairman of this board was expected to perform a number of duties in the way of visitation and inspection. It is interesting also that one of the duties of this office was to aid in planning new school buildings and to give advice on heating and ventilation, together with matters of instruction, discipline, etc., things which today we recognize as being the duty of experts. While this period is somewhat before my time I have the authority of those who were connected with the system in those days for the statement that this officer was really of little value.

In the report of this year^a Superintendent Cochran says that there were 6,115 primary schools in the state. In addi-

^aCochran, 1881.

tion there were 411 city and graded districts. The school period at that time had an average of 7.7 months, many schools having an attendance as low as 5 and a few as low as 3. Much of this situation continued until 1921, or for a period of forty years.

Another point which was frequently emphasized was the need of a course of study, every teacher at that time doing what was right in her own eyes. Superintendent Cochran urged such a course. He actually prepared a rather meagre one covering in barest outlines the work which he felt should be done, but he had no power to put it in actual operation. Consequently it was used by only a few of the schools.

About fifteen years later than this time we find a rather complete course of study. During Superintendent Hammond's administration and in the years following, a course was furnished in a good sized book form, and as it was used as a subject upon which many of the teachers' examination questions were based, it was widely read and pretty thoroughly understood. During the past ten years this course has been much amplified and greatly extended by means of bulletins, which have made the course of much greater value. Recently this has been supplemented by high school courses as well.

A system of institutes was at this time developed as a method of assisting teachers who were then in service or about to enter the service in the field of teaching. Without doubt this was valuable in strengthening the work done in the rural schools. In 1922 these institutes were to a great extent united with the district meetings of the State Teachers' Association and this combination has resulted in a very large attendance at these meetings. At this time the future of the institute was somewhat in doubt.

In 1881 forty-one per cent of the pupils in attendance in the public schools were in graded schools. In 1921 seventy-three per cent were so enrolled showing first, the increase

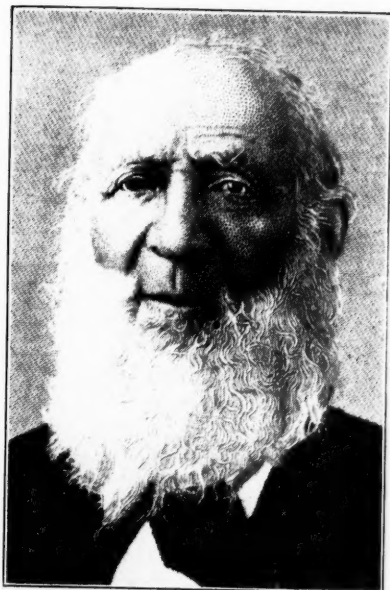
in number in graded and city schools and second, the shifting of population.

One interesting side light is found in the report of the University of Michigan of that year. A considerable number of the professors were receiving \$2200, two \$2250, and one \$2400. The salary of the president was \$3750. These same men today receive approximately \$5000 a year, which would be rather less than \$1000 at that time, in so far as the purchasing power of the dollar is concerned. In other words, the instructors at the universities are not more than half as well off today as they were at that time from a financial view point. The primary school fund in that year amounted to \$1.20 per capita. The per capita cost of education in the grades was \$21 and in high school \$27 as compared with \$46 and \$96 in 1921. Considering the difference in the purchasing power of the dollar this represents an actual decrease.

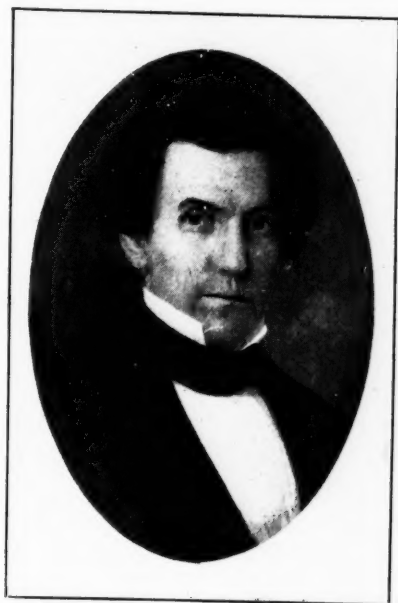
The Normal College graduated 91 in that year with a total enrollment of 492. The school enrollment from 1881 to 1921 increased ninety per cent; so it is obvious that the training of teachers has increased vastly more rapidly than has the number of pupils to be trained. There were several state schools in operation at this time, including the School for the Blind, School for the Deaf, State Public School at Coldwater, and the Industrial School for Boys. The Industrial School for Girls opened its doors in 1881.

An account of this period would not be complete without reference to the Supreme Court of 1880, which directed that all specific taxes in the future be turned into the primary school fund inasmuch as enough money was then available in the state treasury to liquidate the state debt, after which under the Constitution of 1850 the entire specific tax was to be placed in the primary school fund.

The question of larger units for taxation for school purposes and for supervision was being agitated. The State Teachers' Association of 1883 made a thorough study of the



JOHN D. PIERCE



ISAAC E. CRARY



township district system. A state-wide law was not passed until 1909 but in 1891 an act was passed to provide for the organization of such districts in the Upper Peninsula, and between 1891 and 1909 a large number of special acts was passed. These were mostly for districts in the northern part of the Lower Peninsula. The advantages of the township system are obvious: A board of five; uniform tax rate for the township; and where population warrants a township superintendent. The Grange in the last few years of the past century urged the township unit system very strongly. However, the topography of Michigan is such that it was difficult to put such an act in operation and it came gradually to be recognized that a consolidated school without attention to political lines was the solution so far as our state is concerned.

The consolidated school lends itself naturally to the high school organization. The development of the consolidated school in Michigan has been greatly retarded by the unfortunate situation of the agricultural community in the years succeeding the World War. While not much more expensive to operate over the entire district than the primary district system, a building is nearly always necessary and the farmers have shrunk very naturally from the increased tax burden which the erection of a suitable building would involve. The first Rural Agricultural School (Consolidated School) Law giving state aid was passed in 1917 and has been amended by legislation since. The organization of these schools provided for a high school with pre-vocational education opportunities. Manual Arts, Home Economics, and Agriculture are presented. The latter two subjects are presented from the standpoint of vocational work in the Senior high school and give state aid for such work. It would be difficult to improve the law as it stands today, many important changes having been made in 1921.

In 1891 the Legislature, in Act 147 of that year,¹ provided definitely for the election of a county commissioner of schools. This is the first time, so far as I can learn, that the word "commissioner" has been used in connection with an educational officer in Michigan. Its use undoubtedly came from the East where that word is used and is considered more dignified than that of superintendent.

This officer was to be elected by the people because of the fact that the people felt that that was the most democratic method. Obviously the best results can never be obtained from that kind of an election because of the fact that someone within the county must always be elected, and naturally, the best educators are not always the best politicians. Then too, this system has placed the commissioner of schools on a basis with the other county officers, most of whom are not experts in any way. Those who are technically trained as the prosecuting attorney have opportunity for outside practice which the county commissioner does not, or at least should not have. If the county commissioner teaches, the schools suffer in the same proportion.

At the beginning of this system, the people did not recognize the fact that supervision must be an important part of the commissioner's duties, but the time is rapidly approaching when the people will insist that the county commissioner of schools have vastly more power, more help in his office, and be better paid. This will cause a demand for higher qualifications.

In 1891 our kindergarten act was passed.

In 1895 the compulsory school law was somewhat strengthened by requiring children to attend school in the rural district for four months each year, and in city districts continuously, with the provision that any child could attend a private or parochial school, or if fourteen years of age, could be excused by the board for any cause which it deemed reasonable. In 1905 this was greatly improved by providing for

attendance officers and by raising the age for the children who might be excused to fifteen years, requiring them to complete the sixth grade.

In 1919 came the part-time law, so that today a child must attend until sixteen years of age unless he has completed the eighth grade, and if there is a high school in the district, he must attend that high school until he reaches the age of sixteen. To be excused from school for work he must have reached at least the sixth grade. If he drops out at sixteen, or under, he must continue through the part-time school until seventeen years of age, provided a part-time school is maintained in the district. For the compulsory maintenance of such part-time school, fifty eligible pupils are necessary. Today we recognize the fact that such a law is not to deal with criminals, but to deal with children whose activities must be directed.

In 1905 there were 4,044 rural eighth grade graduates out of an attendance in the rural districts of 220,010. In 1921 we had 13,231 graduates out of a rural attendance of 187,006. In other words, with an attendance of around 85%, the number of eighth grade graduates has increased 3 1/3 times.

In 1909 an act was passed which required non-high school districts to pay the tuition of eighth grade graduates in high school districts. At first only \$20 was paid, and if more was charged, the parent was required to meet the difference. This limit has today been raised to \$60.

The effect that the compulsory attendance law and the high school tuition law have had is shown when we realize that in 1905 2,133 children from rural districts were attending high schools. This had increased so that in 1922 they were sending 35,827 out of a materially lower rural population.

The county normal system for training rural teachers was established in 1903. The Central Michigan Normal School at Mt. Pleasant also had an active rural department. The

Western State Normal School at Kalamazoo which was established in 1904 was similarly active in giving attention to the training of teachers for rural schools. The State Normal College has also now a strong rural department. The Northern State Normal School at Marquette, provided for in Public Acts of 1899, has only recently found it desirable to stress rural education.


In 1903 six per cent of the teachers employed in our rural schools had had at least one year of professional training. In 1918 this had advanced to forty-seven per cent. However, the effect of the World War, so far as economic conditions were concerned, was retrogressive, and in 1921 we had but thirty-six per cent.

Strange as it may seem, the counties having the smallest percentages were located in southern Michigan. This was probably due to the attraction of the industrial centers.

Act 186 of the Public Acts of 1921 provides that after September 1, 1925, every teacher entering the teaching profession shall have at least a year of professional training. This is retroactive so that unless a teacher has had nine years of experience, she will be affected by this act. It seems almost certain that we will be ready for the act when it takes effect next year.

The training of teachers has been assisted by the organization of the School of Education at the University and the development of the four normal schools into teachers' colleges. Our so-called denominational colleges also train a noticeable number of teachers for our schools.

In 1873 the minimum term of school required by the student was three months. Under the constitution of 1909 this was raised to five months. Legislation had raised this number gradually although there were still many small districts where it was legal to have five months of school. Act 313 of the Public Acts of 1921 provided a minimum school term of nine months for all but a few isolated districts



and in the case of these a state grant was made which made it advantageous for them to maintain a nine months' school.

A very important practice was made possible by Act 112 of the Public Acts of 1909 providing for school officers' meetings. These were at first held annually but are now held every two years and all officers of the county are called together to meet a member of the Department of Public Instruction for a discussion of school laws and their duties.

The housing of teachers is a serious problem in many districts and in 1921 legislation was provided to make legal teacherages.

In 1919 Physical Education was made compulsory in the schools of our state and a state director of Physical Education was appointed.

In 1915 legislation was passed making it necessary for the Department to approve plans for school buildings. This act was greatly strengthened in 1919 and now the Department condemns unsuitable buildings and approves plans for all changes in old buildings, or for new structures. In accordance with this plan a very large free service has been given to the schools of the state, and Michigan ranks very high in the quality of its buildings.

A word should be said in this connection on the supervision of private and parochial schools. These were placed in so far as buildings, courses of study, and teachers are concerned, under the supervision of the Department of Public Instruction in 1921. Under the operation of this act the teachers are rapidly becoming certificated under our laws. Their courses of study have been modified to conform to the courses of study in the public schools. A very large activity has been discernible in building. Given a reasonable degree of time their buildings will conform to standards as high as those of the public schools in the same communities.

It would be unfair in a sketch of this character not to mention the splendid work which has been done by the Mich-

igan State Teachers' Association. Up until 1905 this Association had but a few hundred members. Today it is close to twenty thousand and it has been most active in working out school problems and assisting the Department in its policies. In many cases it has assumed the leadership itself. Its work is of vast importance in any survey of the educational development of the state.

Other movements not reflected in legislation may be seen in the enormous increase in college attendance. In 1923 we had enrolled in the Normal Schools 5,527 students, in the University 10,068, and in the denominational colleges of the state approximately 3,000 students. The Agricultural College enrolled around 1,700 and the School of Mines 289. At the same time the County Normals were training 451 young people.

Another field in which marked progress has been made is education for special classes, including those who are handicapped, as the blind, the deaf, and the crippled. This work has been greatly strengthened, and in 1923 state aid was extended to districts maintaining day schools for the blind and crippled children. This had previously been the case for those who were deaf.

In 1920 the Superintendent of Public Instruction issued an arbitrary order to the effect that city certificates should not longer be renewed for people who were not improving themselves. This sent hundreds of people to summer schools and has greatly raised the standards of teaching in places where there had been a marked tendency in the past to allow them to go on teaching without any marked evidence of growth.

A sketch of this kind would not be complete without mention of the growth in power and influence of the Department of Public Instruction. Michigan has been fortunate in having some very able men in that office, but until the beginning of the present century their influence was greatly limited

and much of their work was necessarily that of the missionary. With the coming of Walter H. French to the position of Deputy Superintendent under Dr. Hall in 1901 came a new era, and while the office in those days had but four or five people it began to make itself very definitely felt. L. L. Wright was the first Superintendent of Public Instruction to give full time to the office, beginning in the summer of 1909. Today because of the constant legislation adding to the power and increasing the force of the office it has become a real factor in shaping the school policies of the state. A Superintendent, a Deputy Superintendent, eight Assistant Superintendents, an Editorial Staff of two, an Auditor, and a Shipping Clerk, together with a Vocational Staff of three members, a Rehabilitation Staff of four members, a stenographic corps of twelve, and a statistical force of ten, give it a sufficient personnel to do some of the work it should do in furnishing educational leadership for the state.

ADVENTURES IN VITAL STATISTICS

BY VIVIAN LYON MOORE

(State Consulting Registrar, D. A. R.)

HILLSDALE

VITAL STATISTICS." Do these words suggest to you futile labor, dry-as-dust detail, and boredom? Or do they open up to your mind's eye a fascinating field of acquaintance with your predecessors, and of opportunity to make an important acquisition for your posterity?

If you belong to the former class, you are among the large majority who view these efforts of the historical research worker as more or less "ado about nothing"—yet practically every state in the Union has considered the matter of sufficient import to establish an official department of vital records. If to the latter, you are among the ever growing group who feel on familiar terms with the founders of their several communities and wish to pass this unique knowledge on to future generations.

I must confess myself to be a comparatively recent convert from the first to the second class, and with the proverbial ardour of every convert I inflict my own enthusiasm on all and sundry who cross my path. Some of my friends and a part of my family have responded in a way that fills my soul with deep satisfaction; they have willingly trudged through overgrown burying-grounds with me, copying well-nigh illegible inscriptions from tipsy tombstones; others, though still remaining my friends, have come to look at me with the pitying expression bestowed upon misguided fanatics of whatever ilk.

However, after having devoted myself to the task for the better part of a year, I can recommend nothing more highly for acquiring an increase in knowledge of local history, as well as an increase in health. Some of you may be inclined to be skeptical as to the medicinal value of research in graveyards; but, aside from the well-known psychological effect of

an absorbing hobby, I bear witness that the splendid physical exercise involved,—the walking, bending, digging, and oftentimes climbing, which are necessary—equal gardening, hiking, or even golf in its benefits, and in addition one has a final concrete result of invaluable records to be placed in the archives of his State.

In view of the fact that the official records of Michigan extend back only as far as 1867, the need for collecting the earlier, really pioneer records, is apparent. It is a pressing need shown by the rapidity with which many of the most important sources of information are disappearing. Almost simultaneously, though independently, bulletins were sent out by the Michigan Historical and Genealogical Chairman, D. A. R., Mrs T. M. McFarland and myself, and the National Genealogical Chairman, Mrs Harvey Tyson White, asking that the Daughters undertake this work, and at the same time, the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society requested the co-operation of the D. A. R. along the same lines, showing that there was a very general demand to be met. I had already collected some few data in my own vicinity, but feeling that I could more consistently urge action upon other chapters if the work of my own was completed, I systematically set out to unearth, literally in some cases, pioneer information in all of my own county of Hillsdale.

Vital Statistics consist of the records of births, marriages and deaths in a given locality, and there are numerous sources from which these data may be procured. After going over my ground thoroughly and eliminating oral tradition as unreliable, I lined up what was available in my case and started in. Old town records, county records, probate records, Bible records, and church records were veritable mines; obituaries, county Histories, letters, newspapers offered many possibilities; cemetery records and tombstone inscriptions

were indispensable; and the published *Collections* of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society in this state yielded many bits.

The winter months did not seem to offer inducements for cemetery investigation (though I did wade through a few snow banks with that in view), consequently my researches were largely devoted to indoor work. The pastors of the Episcopal, Roman Catholic, and Lutheran churches most kindly aided me by allowing me to remove their earliest registers to my home where I could transcribe them at my leisure. In the last two cases this meant first to translate them, and I rejoiced to find that my knowledge of Latin and German, though long dormant, was equal to the occasion. The perusal of the yellowed pages of such registers gives one an insight into the real meaning of the life of those early missionaries who brought Christian ministrations to the pioneers. We of today with our comfortable cars and paved ways, our steam trains and interurbans, can scarcely visualize the hardships of long trips on horseback or on foot, through unbroken forests, over the most primitive kind of roads, or on Indian trails, which those servants of God were called upon to make, night and day, often wet and cold, sometimes hungry, but never faltering in their devotion to their scattered parishioners. The early priest of St. Anthony's had under his care settlers as far away as Bronson and Burr Oak, a distance of 40 miles, whose needs, living or dying, were met the same as the needs of those near at hand, and the representatives of other churches were equally zealous. Little tales, occasionally tragic, always full of human interest, were gleaned from these statistics—here the christening of twins, there the last rites of some staunch old patriarch whose courage had led him into the wilderness still at the head of his family but whose strength was not equal to the demands of the new life; here the merry double

wedding of two sisters, there the adoption of a young man of his bride's illegitimate child. Perhaps from no other sort of records can a person of imagination form so vivid a picture of pioneer life as from the chronicles of churches.

The Pioneer *Collections* and the County Histories, especially those written during the lifetime of some of the early settlers and containing their reminiscences, furnish engrossing reading and in spite of occasional inaccuracies, give one many facts not obtainable elsewhere to add to the records. For example, the first settler in Hillsdale County and the only settler for over a year, Captain Moses Allen, was the first to succumb to the rigors of the climate after a residence of but two years. The only account of his death, in 1829, and his burial by the three or four "neighbors" by that time living in Allen and Jonesville is found in a letter from his nephew reprinted in an old County History. Even the Court House is silent in his case, as he left no will and the title to his property was granted by the United States Government at the Monroe Land Office. Without the County History, therefore, this important name would have had to be omitted from the Hillsdale County file.

The Court House records just referred to are perhaps the most obvious sources upon which to draw. Wills frequently contain list of children and their ages from which birth dates can be estimated and the petitions of probate are always signed by the heirs and state the date of death. Other items are many times supplied by the further probate records as was the case with those of Peter Havens. At the time of his death in 1841 he was living with his son Peter and his "estate" consisted of ten dollars, the munificent annual pension allowed him by a grateful Government for his four years' service in the Revolutionary War. There was some dispute over the collection of this amount and hence the matter was brought to court and is on file. Acting upon this information, it was comparatively simple to get a copy of his pension papers

giving the details of his service and substantiating his claim, and then to approximately locate his grave in the corner of a certain field in Wheatland Township. This grave is to be officially marked in the near future by Ann Gridley Chapter D. A. R. of Hillsdale.

In the County Clerk's office may be found many early marriage records, for our fathers seem to have realized the necessity for reporting their marriages, though notes of the births and deaths were largely confined to Family Bibles. Access to such family treasures is sometimes gained through advertising or through personal acquaintance but, strangely enough in view of the prolificacy of the times and natural parental pride, birth records are the most difficult of all to collect. One contributing factor to this condition is the fact that time and again the pioneer mother returned to her eastern home for the birth of her child in order to receive proper care and attention, and as a consequence, large families did not necessarily mean long birth records.

The examination of this sort of material brought me to the milder weather of spring and to cemetery investigation, whereupon, equipped with a large notebook, many pencils, a plat book, a lunch kit, and a Buick roadster, I began my tour of Hillsdale County which was to take me during the summer nearly five thousand miles within the limits of that small tract of land.

There are in this county seventy-six cemeteries, every one of which I visited at least once. Some of the larger ones required many days' toil to complete, but every tombstone had to be read and the inscriptions of the proper dates copied. Two of the smaller burying grounds have already disappeared since my first expedition, completely obliterated by grazing cattle turned loose by unmindful and irreverent owners. This incident brings home forcibly the fact that the day is not far distant when this much-desired information will have been lost to a large degree. A month's, a week's, or even a day's

procrastination may mean the loss of just the data required by some future inquirer.

My study of the Histories during the winter previous had familiarized me with the names of the majority of the early settlers, had acquainted me with certain of their characteristics and events of their careers, and now I was rambling over their old stamping places, as it were, getting their background, with the result that when I reached their graves, one by one, they seemed those of old friends. Here again a person with imagination could construct whole episodes from the pioneer days by interpreting epitaphs. How significant of the hardships of that period was the untimely death of a frail young wife, worn out by toil and constant child-bearing, only to be succeeded by a second, a third, and a fourth wife, each of whom in her turn was crushed by the burden and wearily lay down to rest! The wiping out of a whole family within a few days or weeks was silent testimony to the fatal epidemics which swept through the newly settled country. Now and then brighter thoughts came to mind as one paused by the grave of a rugged old veteran who had rounded out a well-spent life by helping to open up the opportunities of the "West" and then, full of years and good works, had gone to his reward. A page of tragedy came to light at the discovery of a group of graves—a children's picnic party drowned at a Fourth of July celebration. An indescribable thrill was experienced when one unexpectedly encountered the tombstone of a hitherto unknown Revolutionary soldier, bearing the legend:—

"This veteran soldier resting here,
Lived during Washington's career,
And served his country well."

Is this drudgery? Is it not rather adventure and romance, sad at times perhaps, but never tedious.

When September came I had completed my self-appointed task, and it was with great satisfaction that I contemplated the index of approximately twenty thousand cards which was

the fruit of a most interesting year's work. I say "completed," though that can never be literally true. However, this index embodied all the vital records of Hillsdale County prior to 1867 from the sources at present available. Keeping in mind the eventual publishing of the records in some such form as those of Massachusetts, after considerable thought I had decided upon the card index form of preservation until such time as it seemed feasible to have them printed. Each card bears the name, data, and references for its particular item, the last being absolutely essential for genealogical work. Every marriage requires two cards, one for the name of each of the contracting parties. The cards read something like this:—

Loring, Hosea—d. Dec. 29, 1850, ae 42y. G.R.O.G.", (meaning Grave Record, Oak Grove Cemetery.)

Whelan, Bion James—son Arvin F. and Dell Anderson Whelan, b. Hillsdale, July 13, 1858. Fam. Rec., (meaning Family Record.)

Mumford, E.C.L. and Julia Camburn—m. 1848, Moscow Twp. Co. Rec.

Camburn, Julia and E.C.L. Mumford—m. 1848, Moscow Twp. Co. Rec. (meaning County Record.)

The births, deaths, and marriages are filed in separate boxes and each group is arranged alphabetically, thus keeping the families together and making any name at once accessible. The references, in most cases, give the clue to the residences or burial places, etc., and altogether this seems to be the most workable plan to follow. At the suggestion of Mrs. McFarland and myself, most of the other chapters have also adopted this plan, so that what records have been sent in so far are uniform in character.

The interest manifested throughout the State encourages us to believe that Hillsdale County is only the forerunner of a large number that will submit complete returns soon.

If it is true that the history of a nation is composed of the histories of individuals, should not the trenchant position of the statistics of this section of the United States as connect-

ing links in the history of the westward progress of far-eastern families be widely recognized?

What an honor it would be for Michigan to head the list of States in the compilation of this unique contribution to a better history of our country, the most important historical and genealogical work we have been asked to do!

I can assure any woman who will undertake it, that she will feel amply repaid, as I do, for the expenditure of time, effort, and gasoline, by the joy in acquiring and possessing the peculiarly intimate knowledge of pioneer conditions which can be gained in no other way.

EARLY COUNTRY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS IN MICHIGAN

BY JOHN W. FITZGERALD

ST. JOHNS

MR. PRESIDENT, and Members of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society: It has been justly and wisely said that men as well as women are often asked to speak upon a question before a public body about which they know but little or nothing.

In accepting the invitation of your secretary to address this meeting, upon any subject relating to "Michigan pioneers and Michigan history," I concluded to take for my text "Early Country Newspaper Publishers in Michigan," a subject which I knew something about.

I have discovered that one may know much about any subject and yet be able to say but little about it. If in what I have to say about the pioneer newspaper publishers of Michigan, I may have occasion to frequently use the personal pronoun I, or we, just remember that under cover of the editorial "We," the I disappears and the writer is given greater latitude.

It has been wisely said that children of tender years develop a special capacity for the doing of certain things; that is, a tendency to devote much of their spare time to investigating the things in and about them. Some become interested in machinery, others in scientific research, many trying out their skill in the use of tools of various kinds, while of the lads who try their hand at making poetry, writing prose or even stories there seems to be no end.

Many of you have noticed that boys of twelve or fifteen years of age fall far behind their regular studies in school because of this penchant to follow wisely or unwisely as the case may be, their longing desire to be busy at the things that they love to do.

Address before Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, Lansing, May 24-25, 1923.

As an illustration of this it may not be out of place for me to state that while serving on the Board of Education in my home city some years ago, my attention was called to one of our High School students who was charged with neglecting his school duties and absenting himself from school without permission. He was charged with being a truant; of being a disorderly, because he seemed possessed of what is often erroneously called, "The Lazy Bug."

The boy was turned over to a committee on truancy of which I was chairman, and an investigation was instituted. The lad's excuse for absenting himself from school during regular hours was "that he might visit the Railway Station House and watch the trains come in." He wanted to see the engineer, sitting in the cab, bring the train to a stop; wanted to see him move the levers to "start her," as he called it.

This boy was just crazy, so ~~to~~ speak, about a locomotive engine. Inquiry brought out the fact that he was a regular reader of the *Scientific American*; had made in his boyish way drawings of engines, locomotives and other mechanical devices. The committee discovered that this boy was no truant, but a student in the great university of life, where he was learning the things upon which his future as a machinist were to be founded.

He did become a mechanic of a high degree of skill; he built an engine and a locomotive and sent it out upon the track of one of our western roads a complete success. He is today a high salaried official in charge of hundreds of men. He followed the calling in life he loved.

Sixty-four years ago three boys, all brothers, the eldest but fifteen years of age, in a county not fifty miles from where this building stands, were set to work by their father cutting corn. The second lad, two years the junior of his elder brother, for long months had become interested in the newspaper business; wanted to learn the printer's trade and in time become the owner of a Newspaper.

It was a warm day in August and the shade of a near-by apple tree proved to be very inviting to the three lads, who took shelter beneath its spreading branches. The embryo Newspaper man of the group like a successful reporter, or a valuable news gatherer, kept his brother corn cutters entertained as to the things he was going to write for the Newspaper which he was in imagination in future years to publish.

The afternoon wore away and there was no corn cut; the father of the lads visited the field at the close of the day to see how the work was progressing and found nothing done. It has been said that apple sprouts make good whips; three of them were used up on the three truant corn cutters. That boy with a penchant for Newspaper work became a printer, an editor and a publisher. He chose to follow in life the things he loved to do.

Colonel Charles V. DeLand, the father of our present Secretary of State, while still a very young man founded the *Jackson Citizen* which he published until the Civil War called for his services. After the close of the war he established the *Saginaw Enterprise* and later made a daily of the *Saginaw Herald*. He was made a state senator from Jackson County and filled the same office from Saginaw County; he held many offices of public trust in the State of Michigan, became an able writer—a politician of influence and a man of affairs during his busy life. DeLand claimed that the Newspaper office of the olden time, was the Poor Boy's College.

The speaker in 1861, sixty-two years ago, entered the office of the *Livingston Republican*, published at Howell, as an apprentice to learn the printing business. The salary was \$25 a year, payable monthly, while the apprentice was supposed to live in the home of the owner of the paper, do the chores for the house and barn and cut the wood for two stoves which were used to heat the office.

In those days there were no "Patent Insides"; that is, all of the Newspaper, a seven column folio, was in its entirety



DON HENDERSON
THOMAS APPLEGATE

GEORGE M. DEWEY
JULIUS D. SMITH



the product of the office. When the President's Message was delivered before Congress it came by slow mail service to the daily papers of the country, and by still slower service to the country weeklies.

The Message was cut up into "Takes," as they are still called; that is, divided between several compositors, who had to set from single pieces of type the entire message. Those of the force who possessed the liking for the work, became lost in the labor they were performing because of the interest the paragraphs of the Message afforded them; in fact, after the entire Message had been put into type and proofs made, that part not set by the compositor who loved the work, was sought out and read with interest to the end.

It was customary in those early days for the country weekly to print the speeches of senators and congressmen, if such officials had made themselves known to the country and their speeches had become of general interest. Here again was work of an educational character for the young typesetter; he became so absorbed in the work of putting the speeches into type that he had some of them committed to heart. He learned style, grace and eloquence of expression, and above and over all he was acquiring a knowledge of the great questions and issues that were attracting public attention.

We desire here to place such a foundation under the young lad learning the printer's trade when so much was done by hand, as the expression goes, in the early fifties, that my listeners may come to see that in those days the Printing office was, as Colonel DeLand has said, "The Poor Boy's College." He was constantly learning how to write; how to read and spell and to distinguish good from poor grammar. He was getting more than this, he was learning the science of Government; he was learning of the world's forces; best of all, he was learning how to think and how to reason.

It may be something of a surprise to this audience made up largely of college men and women, to learn how the young boy apprentices working for \$25 a year spent their spare time. We organized a printers' debating society; we went into the garret of one of the Newspaper offices of the town, where we had gathered a varied assortment of good literature, history, biography, some science, and the great tomes neatly bound of the *Congressional Record*, which senators and congressmen sent to the Newspaper offices free for use.

It was in that garret that sides were chosen and that all questions of public interest being discussed at the time were debated. Every lad had his part to get, and you may rest assured the volumes of the *Congressional Record* were well thumbed and the speeches both pro and con of members of congress given in that garret with all the oratorical flourish the boys possessed.

We did not quit our debating club for the obtaining of information, or for the further improvement of our minds; we attended evening writing school classes; we also joined the debating class in a private seminary, which was at the time conducted in the town. There were times when members of our society created much amusement and surprise; such times occurred after the breaking out of the Civil War, there being much discussion of the question as to whether or not it would be right to deprive the states of the South of free slave labor.

Our boys of the garret were up on all the questions then before the public, on the right of the Northern states to molest the states of the South in the event they wanted to withdraw from the Union. The speeches they had set or put into type; the messages of our Presidents to Congress, including the first message of Abraham Lincoln, which was so filled with the spirit of patriotic devotion, for the saving of the Union intact, which they had read word by word until much of it they had by heart, that they became interested listeners on the street corners when these questions were being

discussed; became bold objectors when some man of prominence made statements before the listening crowd which would not hold water. They "put in their oar," as the saying goes, and often came out victorious, much to the amusement of the listening crowd. If proof was wanted, they were able to cite volume and page of the *Congressional Record* which they had thumbed in the garret. So much for the debating society of the boys who lived unnoticed and without influence sixty-two years ago, learning to make men of themselves and later on as they did, become a force in the community where they settled.

Nearly every lad who graduated from that garret became a public character. Alva G. Blood, who was one of our ablest debaters, who was an apprentice in the office of the *Livingston Democrat*, and in the garret of which office our debating society held forth, became a publisher and a very ready writer, later going into the ministry where he served successfully until his death.

Ferdinand Weller, another of "The Gang," became a publisher and for many years owned and edited a newspaper at Muskegon, where he died after amassing a comfortable competence. The editor of the *Livingston Democrat*, Joseph Titus, was a very bright man; he was an able writer, and it was because of his strong editorials that he kept the county of Livingston in the Democrat column for many long years.

Before taking up the question of the old pioneer publishers of Michigan, I wish to set straight in the minds of my listeners, the thought that seems to be quite firmly lodged, that when we speak of the pioneer we almost invariably associate the word with the hard and difficult labor performed by the early settlers upon land; the men and women who came into Michigan when it was a wilderness; who quite often had to cut their way through the forest that was unbroken, to the spot they had selected for a home. No one wishes to detract, or take from the glory which should be most willingly given

these brave souls, because they deserve well at our hands and it has been the spirit of the times to honor them as they so well deserve. We gladly doff our hat to the man who in his young manhood, accompanied by the bride of his youth, forsook the home of his childhood and seeking a home in the wilds of Michigan, buried himself for years, while cutting his way through to civilization and comfort.

It is now eighty-six years since Michigan was admitted to the sisterhood of states, but eighty-six years ago we had in the state the pioneer newspapers. We hold that the man or woman who blazes the trail in any human industry, whether it be the clearing of the forest, opening the first school, establishing the first store, erecting the first church, preaching the first sermon, or issuing the first Newspaper in a new and growing community, is deserving to be classed as a pioneer.

From the date that Michigan was admitted to the Union, there is scarcely a county seat in all of the four tiers of southern counties that did not have a pioneer Newspaper, sometimes two; and it is upon the publishers of these plants that we desire to place a crown of "well done." They are deserving of praise for the privations they endured, the hardships they put up with; because, to issue a four page, seven column folio Newspaper in those days, means in a sense that it was like following an ox team amid a field of stumps, where the first "break up" was being made.

The physical equipment of the pioneer newspaper office was at best but the gathering together of an old hand press, a few cases of type, and an assortment of other junk with which to print a Newspaper. There was no job office press, and if a ball ticket had to be printed it was placed upon the old hand press and inked by the pressman by the palm of his hand upon which he had spread out what was called job ink; the finished product would shame an amateur in the art preservative today.

The weekly circulation of these old-time Journals ran all the way from 300 to 1,000; the publisher who was issuing a

1,000 papers a week was looked upon by the struggling members of the profession as a wonder. It might be added that Newspapers having a circulation of 800 or 1,000 copies a week were issued from county-seat towns where the settlement was growing and the business increasing.

The exchange list of the country weekly in the old days was a veritable pick-up of information for the office force; it was customary for the state newspapers to exchange with one another, and this exchange brought in papers from all parts of the country. In these exchanges we read the editorials, looked carefully over the selections made for reprint; took in the advertising support and passed judgment on the local writeup. It is quite safe to say that the citizen who received personal mention in the local columns of his home paper fifty or sixty years ago, was a person of prominence, else it was a death or marriage item. The paragraphs too of this class of items of which I mention were generally long and divided by dashes.

As the country offices turned out finished printers, the boys carefully studied the exchanges, looking for the opening of some new county-seat where there would be a want for a newspaper. We remember one of the exchanges which visited weekly the office of the *Livingston Republican* sixty-two years ago, called the *Wolverine Citizen*, published at Flint, by F. R. Rankin. Its first page was made up entirely of mortgage sales, which being paid for at the rate of 70 cents a folio for the first insertion and 35 cents for each subsequent insertion, made of that page a veritable gold mine. Flint then as now was the county-seat of Genesee County and a profitable field during the days of Editor Rankin.

The model newspaper of the entire state in 1860 was the *State Republican*, published in Lansing and edited and owned by W. S. George & Co., Mr. VanBuren being one of the partners. The paper was the prize package in the profession, to the office force, because of its most excellent mechanical

appearance; it was printed on an extra quality of paper and very ably edited; it came from a cylinder press and its pages were smoothly printed and its type a perfect letter.

In those early days there was no electric light for the typesetter to work with when night work was required, which often occurred when long speeches of congressmen and senators were to be printed. A tallow candle, set or rather stuck by a drop of grease in the case which held the type, was the only light to be had; the same light was used for the office illumination, and yet with all of these handicaps few if any of the old-time printers wore glasses.

There are many jokes perpetrated on the pioneer publisher because he advertised to take wood, vegetables, or farm produce on subscription. The pressing need of funds and the scarcity of money among his farmer subscribers necessitated this. He was in the same fix as the local preacher who was paid for his services in pound socials; it was a hardship, true, but as the pioneer spirit was the spirit which built Michigan from a territory of a few thousand people eighty years ago, so it is that under the foundation in every line, established by the early strugglers, Michigan today with its nearly 3,700,000 population has taken fourth place among the sisterhood, both industrially and financially.

The country press has performed for the state and its section, an enviable pioneer service; it has been from the very beginning the only spoken advocate that many a growing village or city has had; its voice has always and ever been raised in defense of its community; its growth and development at every turn, was the pride and ambition of the weekly newspaper to spread broadcast; it succeeded often in making great men (?) out of small material, and was asked by the community without pay to perform a greater service than any other enterprise or business.

The old time Newspaper publisher became a man of influence, because it was through the columns of his publication

that he had aided in the selection of men of prominence in the state to fill public places. As well as being a printer he was a writer, and if the editorials of half a century ago, written by editors and publishers of Country Newspapers, were to be given to the public today, for style, diction, good grammar and well rounded paragraphs, together with facts plainly stated, devoid of equivocation or of doubtful meaning, they would pass muster and receive just praise.

It is true that in some sections and in some towns and even cities those days, party lines were so closely drawn that the press was given to narrowness. Editors were in the habit of calling one another hard names; were a paragraph or two of some of the epithets hurled at one another given here as used to appear in a political discussion between Newspapers of opposite beliefs in those days, the public would conclude that all the virtue we so often these days claim does not exist, was out of date half a century ago.

John N. Ingersoll, editor and publisher of the *Shiawassee American*, Corunna, was a writer of note on the country press. T. S. Applegate, *Adrian Times*; L. E. Rowley, *Ionia Sentinel*; James Bowers, *Livingston Republican*; E. R. Powell, *Stanton Herald*; James O'Donnell, *Jackson Citizen*; H. A. VanAntwerp, *Jackson Patriot*; D. B. Ainger, *Charlotte Republican*; Edwy C. Reed, *Allegan Gazette*; Don C. Henderson, *Allegan Journal*, (the writer whose chirography was likened unto that of the late Horace Greeley), very difficult to decipher; Thomas L. Bates, *Grand Traverse Herald*; James Schimmerhorn, Lenawee County Publisher; Samuel J. Tomlinson, *Lapeer Clarion*; George F. Dewey, *Hastings Banner*; Otis Fuller, *Clinton Republican*; Robert Smith, *Gratiot Journal*; A. L. Aldridge, *Flint Globe*; James H. Stone, *Kalamazoo Gazette*; James H. Hine, *Lowell Journal*; O. W. Rowland, *Paw Paw True Northerner*; C. F. Kimball, *Pontiac Gazette*; besides a score of others prominent in their day as writers and successful publishers.

Colonel L. McKnight Sellers, who recently passed away, published the *Cedar Springs Clipper* for fifty years. For many years Sellers was called "the Dean of the Michigan Press." W. P. Nisbett, founded and published the Pontiac Bill Poster for many years, afterwards becoming the editor and publisher of the *Big Rapids Herald*; he was the Historian of the Michigan Press, served as Private Secretary to Governor Ferris during that gentleman's term of office, recently passed away at Pontiac, a success as an editor and publisher. Hon. Coleman C. Vaughan is one of the old Michigan publishers who graduated from the printer's case. He served on the *Detroit Free Press* after learning the trade in the office of the *Lapeer Clarion*, which journal he successfully published for many years. For some thirty-five years he was the editor and publisher of the *Clinton Republican*, making of that publication one of the best Country Weeklies in Michigan. He served with honor to himself and credit to the state three terms as Secretary of State. L. M. McCutcheon, of the *Portland Review* and later of the *St. Johns News*, a graduate of the "case," is another of the pioneer newspaper publishers of the state, who made a success after years of pioneering.

The first newspaper established in Michigan was in the city of Detroit by Father Gabriel Richard, a Catholic Priest in 1809; it was the first newspaper west of the Alleghany Mountains and the material for its publication was brought into Michigan overland from Baltimore. It was called *The Impartial Observer*.

The Metropolitan press of the years of which I write had a pioneer period to pass through. In Detroit, about which only passing mention will be made, many newspapers in the years that have passed has proven a regular graveyard of buried daily papers. James E. Scripps, the founder of the *Detroit News*, who was being entertained at my home some forty years ago, told of the struggle that he had made to establish a paying newspaper in the city of Detroit. There were too

many in the field; after deliberation he determined to launch a small daily, so small that neither the blank paper nor the press work would run into much expense, while the composition would also be cut because of the size of the paper. It was a four page folio, six columns wide, narrow measure and printed upon a small Hoe Jobber; it lacked in everything but news and spirit; but of that there was no lack. Everything that went into its columns had to be diamond pointed. It gave the news of the state and the nation but gave it briefly. Gil S. Osman filled the chair of state editor and made a reputation for brevity and wit that has not been excelled by any state news gatherer since Mr. Scripps controlled the paper.

This little newspaper, called at that time *The Evening News*, reached a circulation of 7,000, but, said Mr. Scripps, it did not pay expenses,—we needed a little larger circulation. A cyclone came along, hit Detroit, and the account of the destruction done as written up in the *Evening News* increased its circulation to 13,000; from that time on it became easy sailing, while today this paper occupies one of the finest newspaper plants in the United States and circulates 230,000 copies daily.

In the early sixties with the establishment of every new town, no matter how small, a newspaper plant followed; some of them survived but the greater portion of them failed to make a "go" of it and suspended publication, seeking other and more populous places for a new start.

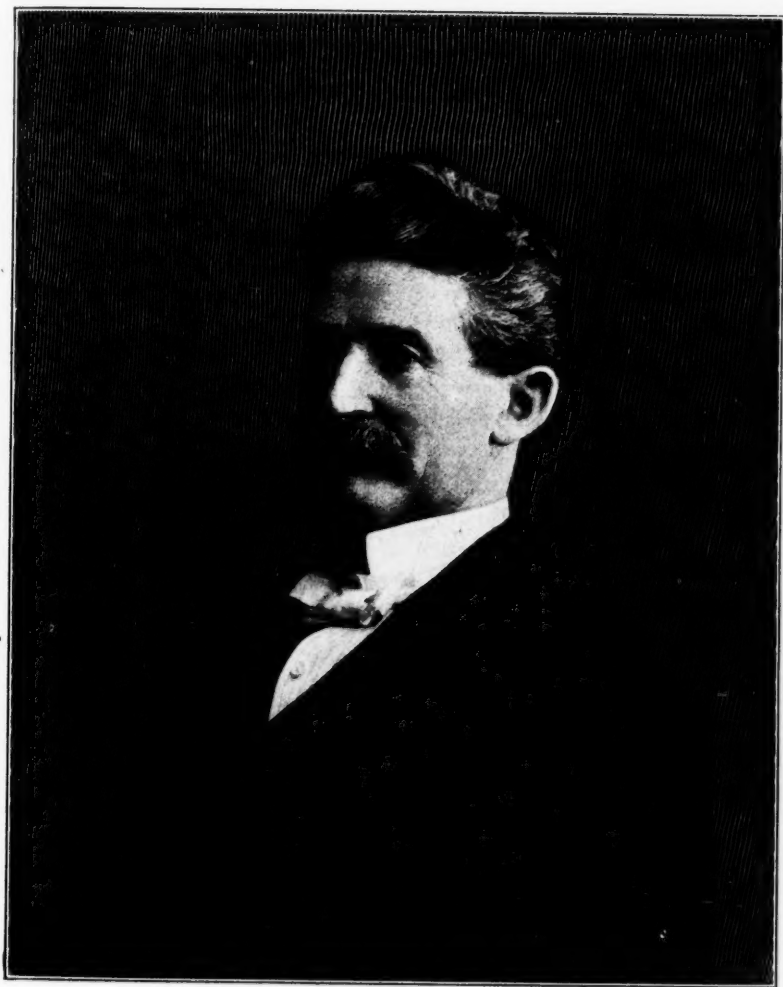
Everything has its day and passing; the pioneer whose advent years ago blazed a trail through the forest wilds—after toil and struggle, lived to see his cleared fields and growing crops. Some failed and some succeeded, like the pioneers in other lines. Those who cast their seed upon stony or sandy ground, like the small town publisher, had to move on; while those who located on a soil that was productive, made the grade and accumulated a competence.

The last half century has changed everything in our material universe; with the coming of the modern inventions and the modern discoveries, old things are discarded. The hand press of the pioneer publishers has given way to modern machinery and the country offices of half a century ago are equipped today with up-to-date devices; the Linotype has displaced the hand compositor, with electricity for lighting as well as to move their machinery.

The metropolitan press has developed with the age in which we live and the business of newspaper publishing has become centralized and fewer papers are published today than twenty five years ago; fewer will be published as time passes because it has developed that one good Journal possessing all the necessary modern facilities is better than half a score unable to meet the demands. The public is better served, and with the mass of news that is to be found today in the advanced country weekly, or the modern city daily, the public is permitted to read all sides of the questions at issue, and can form their own opinions. That day when political lines were drawn so close that a newspaper of Democratic persuasion would not publish a line of criticism of its party or its leaders, while the same was true of the Republican press, has had its passing; today the readers of Democratic or Republican papers are furnished the news, all the news about all parties and all public men regardless of their political leanings. In fact the press generally has become very liberal and it is left to the intelligent reader to draw his own conclusions; he has been placed in possession of the facts and it is up to his judgment to do the rest.

Forty years has brought about a revolution in all the affairs of life; the schools and the colleges have kept pace with this advancement and as a result young men and young women are being fitted to better do the work of the day, in every line of human endeavor, than ever before.

Suffrage has been granted to woman, God bless her, and she has entered politics as a pioneer; many dangers in that



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field beset her path, because time and experience are necessary to properly fit her for the duties she may be called upon to discharge; were we to be asked if it is wise that she take no time or thought before entering the political field; before fitting herself by and through a thorough knowledge of the questions of nation and state, before assuming the responsibilities which from necessity will be placed upon her, my answer would be, make haste slowly; use the ballot wisely and with understanding until your days of pioneering have passed and you can see the cleared field before you.

We are frank to admit that the college man is today in the saddle, but do not forget because of the knowledge we have acquired that genius and greatness are born of an inheritance; that possessing either, hard work and a patient bending to the task is necessary to win success. May it be the province of those who have the making, through education, of the future men and women of the state, to encourage them, in selecting the labor of their lives, to follow a calling they love; doing this their toil to gain a footing will come easier because doing that which they have a liking and a love to do, is not labor, but pleasure coupled with toil.

We must not forget that the cry of the millions from this time on will be for bread; that here upon this continent, the mightiest in all the world, though many times baptised in blood, no man need go hungry who will consent to toil for a just reward.

The great American conscience which came to us as an inheritance from the fathers who fought it free, sits in quiet judgment today as to the place we should occupy among the nations of the earth; in the hands of this sovereign king, the great American citizen, armed with the ballot of free men and free women, we place our trust, and in patience and watchfulness await the result.

WINTER SCENES IN EARLY MICHIGAN

(From Hoffman's *A Winter in the West*)

Detroit, Michigan, November 25, 1833.

I HAD just left the reading-room of the Franklin Hotel, in Cleveland, and was making myself at home for the rest of the evening, in my own neat chamber, when the sound of a steamboat-bell, about nine o'clock, gave note that one of these vessels, which at this stormy season cannot navigate the lake with any regularity, had touched at Cleveland on her way to this place. No time was to be lost, and huddling my clothes, &c. into my trunk as quickly as possible, I jumped into a vehicle, waiting at the tavern door, and in a few minutes was upon the quay. Here I witnessed a scene of indescribable confusion. The night was dark and somewhat gusty, and the boat and the wharf were both crowded with boxes, bales, and the effects of emigrants, who were screaming to each other in half as many languages as were spoken at Babel. Lanterns were flashing to and fro along the docks, and hoarse orders and countermands, mingled with the harsh hissing of the steam on every side. At length we pushed from the shore, and escaping in a moment from the head of the mole, stood fairly out into the lake, while the bright beacon of the Cleveland lighthouse soon waned in the distance, and was at last lost entirely. I found myself, upon looking around, on board of the fine steamboat "New-York," Captain Fisher, to whose politeness I was much indebted for showing me about the boat before turning in for the night. Taking a

This is the first of a series of papers which will run through the Magazine for the current year. The text is taken from Charles Fenno Hoffman's *A Winter in the West*, published by Harpers in 1835.

The work appeared at that time as written "By a New Yorker." The author was born in New York City in 1806; was educated at Columbia; admitted to the bar in 1827; died in Harrisburg, Pa., in 1884. In 1833 he established the *Knickerbocker Magazine*, later became editor of the *American Monthly Magazine*, and in 1846 editor of the *Literary World*.

His trip to the west was made partly in search of literary material. The account is in the form of letters, which have the special merit of being first and faithful impressions. They are among the earliest sketches in the period of settlement to give us a winter view of scenes upon the frontier.

The typographical features of the original edition are here preserved, except in cases of obvious error.—Editor.

lantern in his hand, and tucking my arm under his, he groped about among his motley ship's company like Diogenes looking for an honest man.

Our course first led us through a group of emigrants collected around a stove, mid-ships, where an English mother nursing her infant, a child lying asleep upon a mastiff, and a long-bearded German smoking his meerschaum on the top of a pile of candle-boxes, were the only complete figures I could make out from an indefinite number of heads, arms, and legs lying about in the most whimsical confusion. Passing farther on, we came to two tolerable cabins on either side of the boat just forward of the wheels, both pretty well filled with emigrants, who were here more comfortably bestowed. We next passed the forward bar-room (there being another abaft for cabin-passengers), and finally came to the bow, of which a horse and several dogs had already been the occupants for so many days,—the New York having been twice driven into port and delayed by stress of weather,—that it might have been mistaken for either stable or kennel. A noble English blood-hound, the second dog only of that rare breed that I have ever seen, here attracted my attention, and delayed me until I made his acquaintance; which was but a moment, however, for every dog of a generous strain can tell instinctively when a friend of his kind approaches him.

Among others of the canine crew, too, there was a fine spaniel, whose deplorable fate, subsequently, I may as well mention here as elsewhere. The master of poor Dash, it seems, went ashore during the night at Huron, where the boat put in to land way-passengers; and the animal, springing eagerly along a plank at his call, was kicked from his narrow foothold, by some brute of a fellow, into the lake. The night was dark, and the shadow of the high wharf shut out the few lights on shore from the view of the poor animal, while those on board of the boat led him away from the land. He swam after us, yelling most piteously, until his suffocating cries were lost in the freshening sea, which probably the next

morning tossed him a carrion on the shore. Had I witnessed the act of throwing him overboard, I could scarcely have restrained myself from pitching the dastardly perpetrator of the cruelty after the victim of his brutality; for if there be one trait in men which awakens in me indignation amounting almost to loathing of my kind, it is to see human things treating those parts of the animal creation beneath them as if this earth was meant for none of God's creatures but man.

But to return to our travels through this floating castle: We next ascended a steep stairway to the upper deck of all, and I here spent some moments rather amusingly in surveying the furniture of the emigrants with which it was crowded. They differed according to the origin of their owner. The effects of the Yankee were generally limited to a Dearborn wagon, a feather-bed, a saddle and bridle, and some knick-knack in the way of a machine for shelling corn, hatchelling flax, or, for aught I know, manufacturing wooden nutmegs for family use. Those of the Englishman are far more numerous; for John Bull, when he wanders from home, would not only, like the roving Trojan, carry his household gods with him into strange lands, but even the fast-anchored isle itself, could he but cut it from its moorings. Whenever, therefore, you see an antique-fashioned looking-glass, a decrepit bureau, and some tenderly-preserved old china, you will probably, upon looking further, have the whole house-keeping array of an honest Briton exposed to your view.

But still further do the Swiss and Germans carry their love of family relics. Mark that quaint-looking wagon which lumbers up a dozen square feet of the deck. You may see a portrait of it among the illuminated letters of a vellum-bound edition of Virgil's *Bucolics*. It was taken from an Helvetic ancestor that transported Caesar's baggage into winter-quarters. It might be worth something in a museum, but it has cost five times its value in freight to transport it over the Atlantic. What an indignity it is to overwhelm the triumphal

chariot with the beds and ploughs, shovels, saddles, and sideboards, chairs, clocks, and carpets that fill its interior, and to hang those rusty pots and kettles, bakepans, fryingpans, and saucepans, iron candlesticks, old horse-shoes, and broken tobacco-pipes, like trophies of conquest over Time, along its racked and wheezing sides. That short man yonder, with square shoulders and a crooked pipe in his mouth, is the owner; he, with the woolen cap, that is just raising his blue cotton frock to thrust his hand into the fob of his sherri-valleys. That man had probably not the slightest idea of the kind of country he was coming to. His eyes are but now just opening to his new conditions; nor will he sacrifice a particle of his useless and expensive trumpery until they are completely open. That man has not yet a thought in common with the people of his new abode around him. He looks, indeed, as if he came from another planet. Visit him on his thriving farm ten years hence, and, except in the single point of language, you will find him (unless he has settled among a nest of his countrymen) at home among his neighbors, and happily conforming to their usages; while that clean-looking Englishman next to him will still be a stranger in the land.

I subsequently looked into the different cabins and compartments of the boat not yet visited, and had reason to be gratified with the appearance of all; though the steamboat Michigan, which I have since visited at the docks here, puts me completely out of conceit of every part of the New-York, except her captain. The Michigan, machinery and all, was built at Detroit; and without entering into a minute description of it, I may say, that fine as our Atlantic boats are, I do not recollect any on the Atlantic waters, for strength and beauty united, equal to this. A great mistake, however, I think, exists here in building the boats for these waters with cabins on deck, like the river boats. In consequence of such a large part of the hull being above water, they are rendered dangerous during the tremendous gales which sweep Lake Erie, and are often compelled to make a port of safety several

times during a passage. The English steamers which ply between Dover and Calais are built like other sea-vessels; and having their machinery below, can consequently keep on their course in a sea where one of ours would live but a few minutes. I was fortunate, considering the stormy season of the year, in having a tolerably smooth passage across the lake, there being but few persons seasick on board of the boat, and I happily not included in the number. But it must be very unpleasant, during a heavy blow, to be tossed on the short cobble sea which the light fresh water of these lakes always breaks into beneath the wind.

We passed a number of islands in the morning soon after breakfast; some of them mere rocks, and others several miles in circumference. On one of these, of a few acres in extent, a row-boat, in which a man undertook to transport himself and one or two members of his family to the shore, was wrecked some years since. The father and brother, with a daughter about twelve years, managed to subsist upon the snakes and snails they found among the rocks, until a passing vessel took them off, after some ten days of suffering.

It was during a shower, shortly after noon, when some low wooded islands on the American side of the lake, with a tall flag-staff peering above the haze from the little town of Amherstburg on the British shore, indicated that we had entered the mouth of the Detroit River. The wind, which was now beginning to rise into a threatening tempest, compelled us to hug the Canadian shore so closely, that the red-coated sentinel pacing along the barracks above Fort Malden was plainly seen from the boat. The river soon after narrows sufficiently for one to mark with ease the general appearance of its banks, and the different settlements upon their course. Their appearance must be pretty in summer, when fields and woods show to the most advantage. But now, though slightly undulating, with a sudden rise from the river of some fifty or sixty feet, the adjacent country is too low to be strikingly beautiful. Those, however, who admire the Delaware below

Trenton, if they can dispense with the handsome seats which ornament its not very clear waters, may find a charm in the gentle banks and transparent tide of the Detroit River.

The city of Detroit itself stands upon an elevated piece of tableland, extending probably for some twenty miles back from the river, and being perfectly unbroken for at least two miles along its margin. Beneath the bluff—for the plain is so high as almost to deserve the name—is a narrow bustling street of about half a mile in length, with the wharves just beyond it; and fifty yards inboard runs a spacious street called Jefferson Avenue, parallel with the lower street and the river; the chief part of the town extends for a mile or two along the latter. The dwelling-houses are generally of wood, but there are a great many stores now building, or already erected, of brick, with stone basements. The brick is generally of an indifferent quality; but the stone, which is brought from Cleveland, Ohio, is a remarkably fine material for building purposes. It is a kind of yellow freestone, which is easily worked when first taken from the quarry, and hardens subsequently upon exposure to the air. There are at this moment many four-story stores erecting, as well as other substantial buildings, which speak for the flourishing condition of the place.

The want of mechanics is so great, however, that it is difficult as yet to carry on these operations upon the scale common in our Atlantic cities, although the demand for houses in Detroit, it is said, would fully warrant similar outlays of capital. The public buildings are the territorial council-house, situated upon an open piece of ground, designated on an engraved plan of the city as "The Campus Martius," a court-house, academy, and two banks. There are also five churches, a Catholic, an Episcopal, a Presbyterian, Baptist, and Methodist. The Catholic congregation is the largest; their stone church, after remaining several years in an unfinished state, is soon, it is said, to be completed with

funds derived from Rome; it will make an imposing appearance when finished. The population of Detroit is, I believe, between three and four thousand—it increases so rapidly, however, that it is difficult to form an estimate. The historical associations, the safety, and commodiousness of the harbour, with its extensive inland commercial advantages, must ever constitute this one of the most interesting and important points in the Union, although other causes may combine to make newer places in the territory equally as flourishing as Detroit.

The appearance of the place is any thing but what you would expect from a town founded in the same year with Philadelphia. The ancient houses, which formerly stood upon streets hardly ten feet wide, were all swept away in the great fire twenty years since, and the new white dwellings, standing upon broad avenues of twenty-five yards, make the town look like a place of yesterday.

I am surprised to find but few military remains in a frontier post so frequently fortified, and which has witnessed so many scenes of border war. A small stone arsenal, with a tall picket fence around it, is the only thing of the kind discoverable, and yet the place is thought by military men to have been sufficiently strong during the last war to have held out, if properly commanded, against twice the force which the brave General Brock brought against it. The lapse of twenty-two years has not yet cooled the indignation of the inhabitants at its dastardly surrender by Hull. It is necessary to see the ground to estimate properly that besotted act, at which his officers broke their swords, and his men nearly rose in open mutiny; while even the women of the fort shut the gates, and declared that their husbands and brothers should not abide by the disgraceful orders of their commander. It is astounding to think how slight an exertion of force might have annihilated the attacking party. They landed about two miles below the town, and advanced in solid column

along a straight road, which runs parallel with the river, and is walled inland with a high picket fence, in front of the French farm-houses which line the way. At the entrance of the town, and nearly in front of the hotel where I am staying, were planted two pieces of cannon, loaded with grape and canister. A single discharge must have swept half of the British force into eternity, while the river on one side, and the high picket on the other, would have hedged the remainder in upon a spot where the destruction of the whole would have been inevitable. The artillerymen were standing with lighted portfires, when the order to retire within the fort caused them to fling their matches to the ground, and leave it with disgust. The memory of General Hull, which, with that love of glorification that constitutes the weakest point of our national character, was so hallowed in the Eastern newspapers when he died, a few years since, is here held in the contempt that was the due of a man who was sentenced to be shot to death for conduct entailing so much disgrace upon the nation.

I was not a little amused while talking over these events, with some gentlemen a few evenings since, upon the very scene of contention, to hear a person, whom I soon discovered to be an Englishman, sliding into the conversation, and taking his part of it with equal animation and good feeling; upholding, however, like a real and true Briton, the acts of his own nation. The conversation was very frank on both sides, although, when he spoke of the Kentuckians flaying the body of Tecumseh after the battle of the Thames, I could not trust myself to retaliate by mentioning Proctor's massacre at Frenchtown of the flower of the youth of Kentucky, which, as you know, prompted this ferocious act of their countrymen, in relation to the fierce but noble savage. The ball of conversation, which had hitherto been thrown with equal temper and breeding by better and abler hands, fell into mine, just as "the delicate question of impressment"

was suggested by the English stranger; and in begging him to dismiss a matter upon which our views could so little harmonize, I could not help adding the opinion you have often heard me express, though of course in a manner that conveyed nothing offensive, that my country should never notice the existence of that national difficulty except through the mouths of our cannon; that is, that we should regard and treat impressment like piracy or kidnapping on the highway. "Kidnapping!" exclaimed my wellbred antagonist, smiling jocosely at the word, and politely waiving the further discussion of the subject, "why, I myself, sir, have been taken up for kidnapping within the very precincts of this town." He then went on to tell, in quite dramatic style, a series of whimsical adventures which he met with, when on a surveying party on the Lakes, just after the last war. ("Surveying on the Lakes twenty years ago!" exclaimed I to myself; "why, who can this man be? I have already travelled with him, since tea, over all Europe and a great part of Asia, not to mention the West Indies and South America, with the whole coast of Africa.") The lively and unaffected relation was every thing to the story, which at once enlisted the attention of all present, but the particulars were barely these:—The stranger, then a subaltern in the British service, was sent by his commanding officer to seize some deserters, who had escaped by night from the schooner in which the surveying-party were embarked, and which was anchored in the Detroit River. He landed on the American shore, and tracing one of the knaves to an inn hard-by, he seized him near the door, hand-cuffed him, and handed him to his men to take off to their boat in waiting. Then entering the inn, the sight of a number of articles stolen by the runaways induced the young officer to search for the rest of their number. Provoked at his want of success, he very naturally exclaimed, while passing vainly from room to room, "Well, thank Heaven, I have one of the rascals in limbo." A stout-looking fellow present immediately slid out of the apartment. The

young Englishman, tired at last with his search of the premises, determined to leave the house to look further elsewhere. His foot was on the threshold of the door. "Stop there, you mister," exclaimed a tall Yankee, bringing a bayonet to a charge at his breast, "you don't come here and kidnap our citizens at that rate, I guess."

"Kidnap your citizens! Why, my good fellow, that was a rascally deserter that I apprehended."

"Deserter or no deserter, we don't want no such doings over our side; and you don't budge from here, my hearty, except to go before Governor Cass."

"Governor Cass! Why, my dear sir, I have a letter here for Governor Cass, and am anxious to find him out in person."

It was "no go," however, as the sturdy yeoman said, and he and his comrades at once led our young and hasty adventurer to the residence of the governor. Detroit was then a military post of the first distinction. The town was crowded with officers and their families, and on that very day there was a levee, at which three general officers with their respective suites received company at the governor's. The culprit was politely received by the governor, and being soon drawn within a group of officers, they all heartily sympathized with him, and agreed that they might, without thinking, have acted similarly in violating a foreign territory when sent after "a scoundrel of a deserter." It was, in short, a mere matter of moonshine, and the young offender need give himself no concern about it, but fill his glass, and let the hour bring forth what it might. To make a long story short, however, our subaltern was soon ordered before the governor, who in a totally altered manner explained the grave nature of his offence to him, and told him he must be handed over to the civil authority; adding, that if he did not like to go to jail, he might take up his residence in the fort, under the care of Captain O'Fallon, whose politeness the English gentlemen had already experienced, and under whose custody he was glad to place

himself. His stay there he found far from disagreeable, and he spoke with warmth of the courtesy of the officers in walking out with him every day, and keeping up their necessary surveillance over his person in a manner that made it not at all unpleasant. The grand jury soon after found a bill against him for "the crime of kidnapping an American citizen, *name unknown*;" and he was held to bail in the sum of \$2000, which was at once forthcoming from a gentleman on the Canadian side. The result of the trial was against the prisoner, but a higher tribunal subsequently quashed the proceedings of the court, and set the culprit at liberty.

This relation, the particulars of which I have since found are familiar to the older residents of Detroit, seemed, from the unaffected yet animated manner in which it was made, to strike every one present; and, as you may imagine, our interest in the party chiefly concerned was not a little heightened by our discovering the next morning, that the individual who had made himself so agreeable the evening before was Captain V———— of the British Navy, whose enviable reputation, as the companion of Captain Owen in his recent arduous voyage of discovery along the coast of Africa, gives one the privilege of mentioning his name as that of a public man. Captain V———— has just settled on a farm on the Canada side, but so near to Detroit that his society will be an acquisition to a neighborhood remarkable for its agreeableness and elegant hospitality.

I have made several excursions to different places in the vicinity of Detroit. The pleasantest ride, perhaps, is one along the river on the Canada side; from which Detroit appears to great advantage. Every thing looks dead, however, in William IV.'s dominions, after coming from the bustling American town. The French there insist upon holding on to their acres, and being unwilling to improve their property, its value remains stationary. These French tenures have had their effect, too, in retarding the growth of Detroit,

and they still check in no slight degree its advances in prosperity. The French farms are laid out along the river on both sides, with a front of only two or three acres on its bank, while they extend back into the country for half a dozen miles; a disposition of property very unfavourable to agriculture, and only adopted originally to bring the colonists as near together as possible, for the sake of mutual protection against the Indians. Many of these farms now cross the main street of Detroit at right angles at the upper end of the town, and, of course, offer on either side a dozen building lots of great value. The original owners, however, persist in occupying them with their frail wooden tenements and almost valueless improvements, notwithstanding large sums are continually offered for the merest slice in the world off the end of their long tailed patrimonies. They are a singular race of beings altogether. Mild and amiable, with all that politeness of manner which distinguishes every class of the courteous nation from which they derived their origin—they are still said to be profoundly ignorant. They call Detroit "the Fort" to this day, and yet few of them know any thing of the country whose soldiers first held it. They are good gardeners, but very indifferent farmers; and their highest ambition is to turn out the fastest trotting pony when the carriage races commence on the ice at mid-winter. Some of them will own a hundred of these ponies, which, in defiance of snow and sun, run in the woods from one end of the year to the other. The fastest of the herd, which is generally a three-minute horse, the owner will keep for himself, or, if he parts with him, asks the purchaser two or three hundred dollars for the animal, while from the rest, for twenty-five or thirty, he may select at pleasure. They are very easy-gaited animals, carrying astonishing weights with ease; but their shoulders are so low it is difficult to keep an ordinary saddle on their backs with any comfort. But though generally rough mis-shapen looking creatures, some are very elegantly formed, and remind me often—while neither resembling the

Arabian nor the English horse—of some French drawings I have seen of the spirited steeds of the Balkan, or the rushing coursers of the Ukraine. I am informed that they are known to perform journeys under the saddle of sixty miles a day for ten days in succession, without being at all injured by it. They are thought to have a different origin from the Canadian horse, to which the best of them bears no particular resemblance except in size.

With judicious crossing, a most valuable race of horses might be produced from this hardy stock, which, for their vigor and endurance, I can only compare to the tough wild thorn of the country; an unpromising shrub, which, when grafted upon, produces the most flourishing fruit-trees I have ever seen.

The drive to Lake St. Clair must be very pleasant in summer, judging from what I saw of it during a raw snowy day. The banks of this river are indeed rather low for beauty, and the lake itself, when you arrive at it, is only a large black sheet of clear water; but the thick-set orchards of the French farmers, coming quite down to the shore of the river, are pleasing objects in themselves, and with the green islands in the strait, the decaying windmills so frequently recurring along its shores, and the groups of shaggy ponies almost invariably grouped around their base, would enable a painter to eke out a very pretty landscape.

About ten miles from Detroit, a United States arsenal is now erecting, under the superintendence of Lieutenant Howard, of the army; for an introduction to whom I was indebted to two young officers, who rode out with me to visit the place. The day was cold and cloudy, like most it has been my lot to describe to you of late; but my companions were intelligent and agreeable, my horse free and sufficiently fast, and my reception at the end so satisfactory, that I still think of my ride along the lazy banks of the bilious-looking River Rouge with pleasure. The arsenal, though of brick,

is by far the best specimen of masonry I have yet seen here. It is to be regretted, however, that for such a national work, the appropriation by government for its erection had not been large enough to have permitted the beautiful Cleveland stone, which form the lintels of its doors and windows, to be substituted for the perishable-looking material of which the building is now constructed. The taste of Lieutenant H., which is already evinced by some arrangements in the vicinity, will no doubt induce him to preserve some hoary and fantastic-looking oaks, which fling their gnarled branches within a few yards of the walls, and which even now, stripped as they are of their foliage, are worth a whole forest of common ornamental shrubbery. The trees I have generally seen around our military posts, look all as straight and martinet-like as if planted by a drill-sergeant. These veteran oaks stand upon a sloping bank and as they are too crooked ever to catch the eye of the utilitarian, and be sawed up into boards, they may, if not now molested, wave yet for a century above these ingenious idlers who delight to—

“—under the shade of melancholy boughs,
Lose and neglect the creeping hours of time.”

Too much praise can hardly be accorded to the activity of the officer, who, in five months, has reared such a building, and created the village which is already growing up around it in the midst of an unbroken forest. There is a capital inn, a store, and two or three dwellings in the new town of “Dearbornville,” all built since last July. I sat down to dine on a fine haunch of venison, with the veteran General B——— and his young aid, who were together on a hunting expedition in the vicinity. Nothing could have impressed a stranger more favourably with military breeding, than the bland, paternal manner of the gentlemanlike old officer to his four juniors present. The deer yet abound within a morning’s walk of Detroit; the primitive forest standing untouched within a few hundred yards of the town, immediately in its rear. They are

hunted daily at this season, and no slight sensation was made here a day or two since, by the prolonged absence of the general, who had been benighted and lost his way, upon one of these short excursions. The town was about to turn out en masse, when the reappearance of the hunter, after two days' absence, relieved a very general anxiety.

The tedious length of this letter is sufficient apology for the abruptness with which I must break off.

Monroe, Michigan, Dec. 3, 1833.

The drive from Detroit hither is dull enough at this season of the year. The road leads through almost a dead level, and the muddy streams creep over the flat black soil, as if they had gormandized upon its rich vegetation till grown too lazy for locomotion. Among others, the Huron River, from which—seeing that it rises in one of the brightest and most beautiful lakes in the peninsula, better things might be expected, waddles on to the lake, as little excited by the flocks of ducks which frolic on its bosom, as an alderman after dinner by the flies that disport upon his jerkin. Occasionally, indeed, some bright little rill will ripple across the road, and smirk over its yellow pebbles on its way to the big lake, with much the same air that the mill-streams of Long Island dance over the level ground while hurrying to the sea. But a wet prairie soon intervenes, and the innocent rivulet, like a child that is snubbed, becomes at once silent and sulky. But though some parts of Wayne county are thus unattractive, I am told that other sections contain much arable land of excellent quality, consisting of sand loam and some clay with heavy timber, and occasionally fine bottoms along the streams. The population is about eight thousand.

The village of Monroe, in the county of the same name, from which I now write, is situated on the banks of the River Raisin, and about two miles from its entrance into Lake Erie. It was incorporated two years since, and comprises a part of

the old site of Frenchtown, celebrated, as you remember, in the annals of the last war. The place is said to be regularly laid out; but the most business part of it—and it is the fussiest little town in the world—looks as if the buildings had all been tossed from the other side of the river, and left to settle just where they might fall upon this. If the place continues to increase as rapidly, however, as it has during the last year—the population having doubled in that time—the inhabitants can afford to burn down the river side of the village, and arrange it to more advantage. There are now about 150 houses, of which 20 or 30 are stone; some of them are wholesale establishments, and make a very handsome display of fancy goods. There are also two grist-mills immediately in the town, a woolen factory, an iron foundry, several saw-mills, a chair factory, a tannery, etc. And yet, notwithstanding the supply of water-power affords every facility for the use of machinery, the demand for manual labor is very great, and mechanics of every kind may here, as in Detroit, find constant employment. Indeed, I am told, that the demand for mechanics in every part of Michigan is excessive; and as for labourers, I have seen them repeatedly advertised for, by written notices on tavern doors and elsewhere. The emigrants to the territory, I find, are generally people of a very respectable class, who have both the disposition and the means to employ the services of others around them.

The "Bank of the River Raisin" is established at this place, with a capital of \$100,000; and though in its infancy, is said to be doing a very flourishing business. The notes are among the handsomest specimens of bank-note engraving I have seen. There is also a Land-Office established here, at which the sales of public lands since last April amount to upwards of \$22,000; the sales at Detroit and White Pigeon together a little exceeding this sum. The government price of land (\$100 for 80 acres) being the same in every part of the territory, this will give you some idea of the immigration into the Peninsula.

I must not forget to mention that with a population of only 1600 souls, five religious denominations are represented in their respective clergymen at Monroe; and that three of these, the Roman Catholic, Episcopal, and Presbyterian, have each a neat church of their own. I ought to add that a newspaper, with a good circulation, is printed here.

The advantageous position of Monroe, situated as it is at the head of Lake Erie, induced the government to make an appropriation for improving the harbour, which, except that of Maumee, is the only one at this part of the lake. The lamented Major Maurice, of the Engineer Corps (who, you may remember, fell down and instantly expired in the act of shaking hands with General Gratiot at Washington, last winter), and whom the inhabitants of this place speak of with the tenderest remembrance—made minute surveys of the harbour and of the different channels of the river; and the bill which has been at various times introduced into Congress for their improvement was based upon his reports. A bill was passed at the last session of Congress appropriating \$8,000 for rebuilding the pier at the mouth of the river, and also appropriating the sum of \$20,000 for a road from La Plaisance bay, through which the Raisin debauches into Lake Erie, to intersect the Chicago road, which traverses the whole Peninsula at a point about 40 miles from here; an improvement which will open a new market to southern and western Michigan, and contribute of course much to the prosperity of Monroe. A bill was also passed by both houses appropriating \$15,000 for a canal connecting the waters of Lake Erie and the River Raisin, by a cut across the bar at the mouth of the latter. The money has not been expended, however, in consequence of an oversight in the engrossing clerk, which, from his omitting this important item, has prevented the bill as yet becoming a law. The moneys appropriated for the pier and road have already been mostly expended, and those public works are now nearly completed

under the active and efficient superintendence of Capt. Henry Smith, of the Engineer Corps. When all these improvements are completed, Monroe must come in for a large share of the immense trade and commerce which must flow through the three outlets of eastern Michigan. The mouth of the Maumee can hardly compete with it on account of the extreme unhealthiness of that swampy region; but I am inclined to think that the enterprising inhabitants of this thriving little place are somewhat too vivacious in their expectations, when they think of not only rivalling, but outstripping, the ancient city of the straits on the onward road to prosperity. Detroit, like every other point selected by the French on the Western waters of our country, is as commanding a position, whether for war or trade, as could be chosen.

The Monroeites are, however, a driving people in their way. They are now building a steamboat of the largest class, which will cost not less than \$45,000, to ply directly between here and Buffalo; and this morning I saw launched a beautiful schooner, for the lake navigation. It was the first launch that had ever taken place at Monroe, and the occasion caused a general turn out of the inhabitants, who hurried to the spot, a mile or two off, upon horses of every variety of appearance. There was the bull-necked French pony and his scraggy looking Indian cousin, the sleek spongy-looking Ohio horse, and the clean-limbed quickly-gathering Kentuckian, galloping between the swift but shuffling Illinois pacer, and the high-actioned tight-looking New-York trotter. Every one rode as if for a wager, and when we drew our reins the talk upon horse flesh superseding almost the interest of the schooner, showed that the Monroeites, like Catiline and Purdy, deserve to be celebrated for their judgment in these matters. A very good and full band of Amateur Musicians, composed of respectable private individuals of the village, came at last upon the ground, and changed the subject to the name of the new vessel, which several wished to alter before launching,

from the hackneyed one of Diana to the more characteristic sound of *Tecumseh*, the spot being so celebrated in the memoirs of that great chief. "You knew Tecumseh then, sir?" said I to an old gentleman, who, I was informed, had been a field officer during the late war, and engaged in several battles. "I did, sir, and he was as thorough a gentleman and as high-toned an officer as any in the British service." The chief, you know, actually held his commission as a general officer immediately from the King of Britain. "What do you then, sir, think of his massacre upon this spot," I rejoined. "The barbarity of that act, sir, was only in accordance with Indian ideas of warfare. The disgrace of it attaches entirely to the English officer (Proctor) who permitted perhaps sanctioned, the atrocity." The old officer's blood seemed to kindle anew as he dwelt upon that horrible slaughter of a force which had capitulated on honourable terms with a full reliance on the foe for protection. I asked him about the sick and wounded, who were burnt up in the hospital, or shot to death as they ran shrieking through the flames. "I saw their bones," he replied, "when the ruins were still recent. I came on with the corps of Kentuckians which advanced soon after into this country, and subsequently so eagerly avenged their countrymen at the battle of the Thames.* I walked to the spot where the wounded met their fate, with several others. Richard M. Johnson was one of the number. We looked into the pit, and could see the charred bones and dismembered limbs, and sometimes half-burnt bodies, plainly below. The men muttered the

*It was in this battle that the noble Tecumseh fell—dying, as it was supposed, by a pistol-shot from Col. Johnson. If Thatcher's Indian Biography has not already made the reader familiar with the career of this famous savage, he is referred to Mr. Schoolcraft's Travels, where an authentic account of Tecumseh, interspersed with many characteristic anecdotes, will be found. There is also a succinct biographical sketch of him in the Encyclopedia Americana, which concludes by summing up his qualities as follows:—

"Tecumseh was a remarkable man, fitted for obtaining greatness both in peace and war. His eloquence was vivid and powerful. He was sagacious in contriving and accomplishing his objects, and by his address obtained an unlimited influence over his savage brethren. Throughout life he was exemplary in his habits of temperance and adherence to truth. He was disinterested, generous, hospitable, and humane. He married at a mature age in consequence of the persuasion of his friends, and left one child. In person he was about five feet ten inches high, with handsome features, a symmetrical and powerful frame, and an air of dignity and defiance."

deepest curses. Col. J. spoke not a word, but the tears rained from his eyes; and turning away, he exclaimed, 'There lies the best blood in Kentucky, poured out like water.' " I have given as nearly as I can the very words of the veteran colonel in describing this sad spectacle. Of the seven hundred young men murdered here, the most were students at law, young physicians, and merchants, and the sons of opulent farmers,—in short, the very flower of Kentucky.† The event threw the whole State into mourning.

Speaking of the troops who were concerned in the early-^{7 Cows} operations of these regions, I have heard a number of interesting accounts from different persons of the formation of the several corps. One of these, though I may very probably, in trying to recall the particulars, confound them with the incidents of another, I will venture to repeat. A graduate of Williams College, Massachusetts, who had been recently admitted to the bar, was riding through the State of Kentucky, perhaps with the design of finding some favourable point at which to fix his abode and commence the practice of his profession, when he was accosted near a village by a mounted traveller, who, mentioning that he was a planter of the country, invited the young advocate, with all the freedom of western hospitality, to dine at his house the following day. The invitation was accepted; and the eastern gentleman, arriving at the mansion of the unknown host, found a large party collected, the majority of whom were well acquainted with each other, while many were strangers like himself, and invited apparently in the same manner. The dinner, however, was got through with sociably enough; and by the time the glass began to circulate freely, all felt that easy confidence in the fellowship and good feeling of each other which is the soul of good society. The host, then rising, described briefly the state of the north-western frontier, and produced a commission from his pocket to raise a corps and march at once

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†Since this was written, I have met with a Kentucky gentleman in Illinois, who had lost five relations in the massacre—a father, two brothers, an uncle, and a cousin—the youngest was not seventeen.

thither. They enlisted to a man, their entertainer provided them on the spot with the necessary stores and munitions, and the band of volunteers started in a few hours on their march to the border.

The name of the noble host was not mentioned, but the eastern adventurer, who was elected a lieutenant upon the spot, and soon after became a captain, was said to have been better known since as colonel, general, governor, and lastly,—Mr. Secretary Cass.

I regret now that I did not inquire into and note down the names and other particulars of a relation so striking, but you have the tale as it was told in my hearing, *minus* the admirable manner of the relation. But I am forgetting the Diana—that burst of music tells that she begins to move on her ways—calmly now she slides like a pair of Broqua's slippers through a quadrille; and now, as that bottle of champagne foams over her bow, her motion increases almost to the velocity of a *gallop*. What a sensation does she make among the waves, and how do they coquet with her on every side! She bobs about till she seems as unstable as themselves. But now the sober skipper, like a good husband, takes possession of her virgin charms, and placing himself at once at the helm, the unmeaning waters cease their flirting, and sustain her above them without daring to attempt to influence her course.

The ride to these dock-yards is rather pleasant; but I have seen handsomer rivers than the Raisin. The banks for several miles around the village have been almost denuded of trees; and the limestone channel lets off so much of the stream through its crevices, that, like a tankard of liquor passed round, according to custom, at a western inn, it is half drunk up before it gets to its real owner, the lake. It would delight an eastern farmer, to see the magnificent pear-trees which, tall as the trees of the forest, and of the growth of a century, extend through orchards for miles along the stream. Here, too, are apple-trees, to the excellence of whose fruit I can

testify, that were brought by the French to this country in 1731. The grape-vines, also, from which the river takes its name, constitute a beautiful feature in the level landscape, as they hang in rich festoons along the banks of the stream, and climb wherever it is wooded to the tops of the loftiest elms.

There is now an application and great interest making to incorporate a company for the purpose of improving the navigation of the River Raisin and the Saline by a lock and dam navigation,—an improvement which it is said can be made at slight expense. The river, flowing gently in its channel, with banks of equal elevation, seems ready to receive and bear upon its bosom the rich products of the country on its borders. By constructing a tow-path, the expense of which will not be heavy, an excellent canal can be easily made.

The subject of canals and railroads awakens at this moment the keenest interest in Michigan; and, after the route of the projected grand communication between Lakes Erie and Michigan, through the peninsula, shall be determined upon by the general government, I have no doubt but that large and advantageous outlays of private capital upon similar works will be made at other points. Of the plans talked of as best worthy the attention of government, that of a grand railroad from Chicago to Detroit, with a lateral one perhaps to Monroe, seems to be considered as the least chimerical; though there are not a few who advocate a canal immediately across the peninsula, in a direct line from the mouth of the Maumee to Lake Michigan; and still a greater number who urge the construction of one from the mouth of the Maumee to Lake Michigan; and still a greater number who urge the construction of one from the mouth of the Raisin to that of the St. Joseph's, on the opposite side of the peninsula—a route which would pass through a country acknowledged, I believe, to be the most fertile in Michigan. But another project still remains, as feasible, or perhaps more so than either of these. It is to

connect the Washtenong or Grand River—a noble stream, which waters half the territory, and is navigable nearly 240 miles in bateaux—with the Huron, a fine stream, which, after rising within a few miles of the sources of the Washtenong, empties into Lake Erie, on the opposite side of the peninsula. You can hardly form an idea of the relative importance and feasibility of these projects, without more knowledge of the territory of Michigan than is common at the east, where people generally know about as much of it as they do of Timbuctoo. I have already been so fortunate in my opportunities of talking with well-informed people here, that I might venture at once to give you a general view of the country, but I prefer that you should gather whatever information I have to give from my own actual observations made along the road. With regard to scenery, I do not think, from what I have yet seen, I can promise you much; but for agricultural and mineral resources, and for manufacturing and commercial advantages, I think I can produce some data which, if they do not astonish our good people at home in regard to Michigan, will at least account for the emigrants pouring into the territory as they do, and believing it to be the garden of the Union. You must, however, pick up your information as I shall, by jogging along quietly with me through the country, and observing matters and things just as they come beneath our eyes. To-morrow I start for the interior. Farewell.

HISTORICAL NOTES

“**H**ONOR, justice and humanity call upon us to hold and to transmit to our posterity, that liberty which we received from our ancestors. It is not our duty to leave wealth to our children; but it is our duty to leave liberty to them.”—*John Dickinson.*

“**T**HOSE who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it.”
—*Paine.*

And will repeat!
APROPOS of the approach of Lincoln's birthday, Miss Edith Franklin Wyatt of McClure's Magazine has thoughtfully sent us two items of interest, relating to the Chicago convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln for the Presidency. These items she received in conversation with Mr. Addison G. Procter of St. Joseph, Michigan, who was a member of the convention. The first relates to the speech of George William Curtis. When the Committee on Resolutions, says Mr. Procter, brought in their report on the platform of the Republican Party before the convention, Joshua R. Giddings from Ohio, a regular old war-horse, rose and offered an amendment. He wished to insert from the Declaration of Independence—

1860

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”

In support of this amendment he raged up and down like a caged hyena, giving us a sample of old-fashioned, political oratory. He made a strong scold on behalf of the Declaration of Independence, and a clever, sarcastic delegate from Pennsylvania, a very brilliant speaker rose and said quietly:

"Well, gentlemen, *I* believe in the Declaration of Independence, I believe in the Lord's Prayer, I believe in the Ten Commandments." He went on to mention a number of beliefs of general acceptance. "*But I don't believe in inserting them in the Republican Platform.*"

This started a laugh that brought down the house.

In the uproar, George William Curtis, tall, handsome, aristocratic, a man who looked like a Broadway swell, got the floor, and instantly quieted the convention by saying in his beautiful voice,

"Gentlemen of Pennsylvania, have you come to this convention to attempt to undo what your fathers did in Independence Hall?" He made an eloquent, moving speech on the principles of the Declaration of Independence. It was graceful. It was thrilling. It was the speech of the convention—a great speech: and it swept the meeting off its feet. It turned the opinion of the delegates around completely. At the close of his address Curtis said,

"Gentlemen, I offer you Mr. Giddings' amendment!" He was seconded by the speaker from Pennsylvania; and the motion was carried by acclaim.

* * *

Mr. Procter tells the following story about the speech which nominated Lincoln at that convention:

The Illinois Delegation at the Chicago convention of 1860 appointed as the man to make the nominating speech for Lincoln—Norman K. Judd—a well-known Chicago lawyer.

We all looked with especial interest to that nominating speech, as Mr. Lincoln's position before the convention differed from that of all the other candidates. All other candidates had their public records to recommend them. But Lincoln had none. So we were anxious to see what Judd would say in nominating him. In some respects the nominating speech

of Mr. Judd was disappointing. It seemed to lack cohesion and force.

Some years later when I was in Chicago, Long John Wentworth came in to see me and to talk over affairs at that convention. John Wentworth had a drawling, humorous voice; and a long jaw. He used to move it slowly back and forth, like a camel; and wagging his jaw, he said in this drawling voice, "Well—Procter, how did you like Judd's nominating speech?"

"To tell the truth," I said, "I thought it lacked force and *cohesion*."

He laughed and said, "Oh you did, did you? So you thought it lacked *cohesion*! Well, I'll tell you what happened. The whole affair of Lincoln's nomination was put in the hands of a Committee of Fifty; and when it came to writing the nominating speech, the Committee put that in Judd's hands. They knew he was a smart lawyer. Still they were not very enthusiastic about Judd's having the whole thing. So they arranged that he was to write it: and then *submit it to each one of the fifty to take out or put in* what he thought was necessary. Well, by the time they got through there wasn't much left of Judd's speech! The speech you heard had been written by fifty-one men! That was what was the matter with it."

* * *

About a year ago, Mr. Procter addressed the Lansing Kiwanis Club, and told many stories of the inside influences which nominated Lincoln. Following is an extract from this address printed in the *Lansing State Journal* at the time:

Those were indeed momentous days, and I think we all somehow felt ourselves in a vortex in the affairs of men. In the convention we had come to the close of the second day. I was a member of the rules committee which had the order of business in charge. Thomas Corwin of Ohio, was the chairman of that committee. The rule was in effect that when we met the third day, nothing should intervene in the way

of convention business between the opening of the balloting and the nomination.

This rule being well understood, on the night of the second day of the convention we all realized that the morrow must be momentous. We knew that before the close of the next day a candidate must be named. There was hardly a delegate, I think, that did not inwardly sense the great responsibility.

Through the second day of balloting, William G. Seward, the great and acknowledged leader of the party, had been leading. His vote was a solid one. It was most of the time within 50 votes of the nomination and this following never wavered. Outside of this Seward strength all was confusion. There were numerous favorite sons and there did not appear to be any way of solidifying the Seward opposition. We all respected Seward and his capacity as a statesman, yet there was something in the hearts of those opposing him which would not quite let them nominate him.

The night of the second day of the convention was a strenuous, anxious time. I was with the Kansas delegation. We were met in the old Bates hotel. While we were so gathered, Horace Greeley came to speak to us. It may be said that he was the foremost political philosopher of our party and one with peculiarly impressive standing in the councils of the party.

Greeley said to us, "Gentlemen, beyond question, nomination will be made by the convention tomorrow. I come to ask you to weigh your action well. My particular plea is that you so act that it cannot be charged that the Republican party is a purely sectional party. My word to you is that you select a candidate from some of the border states. If you do that we shall at once disarm the criticism that this is the party wholly of the North. If we name a man who believes in keeping slavery on southern soil who is yet of the South itself, it will have to be acknowledged that we have been fair."

At the conclusion of Greeley's talk there was some discussion with him. Some one spoke up and said, "Mr. Greeley, what do you think of Abraham Lincoln?" "Well," replied Mr. Greeley, "this man Lincoln must be quite a wonder in a way. We cannot escape being conscious that the people of Illinois believe him in a very thoroughgoing way. They are for him in a way quite beyond words; but, however this may be, we must realize that Lincoln is untried. We are face to face with a crisis and we cannot think of taking an untried man at this time."

After Mr. Greeley had gone we received word that a southern delegation wished to meet and talk with us. We were told that there were about 30 of them. We arranged the chairs as best we could and crowded up together and sent word for them to come on.

The moment those mountain men of the South came into our room, we realized that momentous influences were afoot. I never beheld such a stern and aggressive lot of men in my life. We all instinctively realized that they were fighters. They were Scotch-Irish folks of the mountains of the border states.

The spokesman for this delegation was the courtly Casius M. Clay. I shall never forget him and his mannerisms. He did not bow in general, he bowed to each of us. Then, in the impressive silence that ensued, he said, "Gentlemen, we are on the brink of Civil war." Then he paused. Going on he said, "Yes, you have all heard this declaration before. But I come with information direct from the South that they are preparing down there for war. Give us the right kind of a man for leader and we of the border states, the kind of men who you see represented here, will arise to push back secession from the Ohio, back beyond the Tennessee, back into its lair. The men who you see here have in jeopardy their all. Their homes, their families and their fortunes are all at stake. They will fight this southern aggression, but we must have a leader behind whom we can solidly fight—we want you to name Abraham Lincoln! Lincoln was born in Kentucky, we believe in him, other similarly situated with ourselves believe in him as well."

This speech by Casius M. Clay certainly stirred us in behalf of Lincoln. We began to think of him in a new light. Lincoln had come to the convention with 80 votes and had never been considered a strong contender, but we began to see in him the possibilities we needed.

Among those who counseled us in behalf of Lincoln was Governor Henry L. Lane of Indiana. Said Governor Lane: "It appears that war is at hand. If it comes it will not be congressmen and senators and judges who will fight it. It must be the men of the shops and the fields. What we must have for president is a man who can move these plain folks to enlist. They will do it for Lincoln; they believe in him. I doubt if they will do it for Seward."

It was with words of this nature that we went into the third day of the convention. There was a break to Lincoln almost from the outset. Pennsylvania went to him after compliment to Cameron. Vermont followed. And so it went.

Lincoln was nominated on the third ballot of the third day. It was a mighty climax of a wonderful convention.

But, when the first enthusiasm for the nominee was past, we began to sense a deep reaction. We were asking ourselves, "What have we done?" Telegrams began to pour in upon us asking what could be the meaning of our action in passing up the statesmen of our party

for an unknown? We could hardly explain to ourselves. We could not clearly state the thought that had moved us.

But we realized that we must do all we could to stand behind our action in nominating Lincoln. I was going east and so I joined the Michigan delegation. I shall never forget Gov. Austin Blair. Blair had made a wonderful seconding speech for Seward. It was one of the outstanding speeches of the convention. Naturally he was greatly disappointed, but he was right at work rallying the Michigan delegation for Lincoln. But it was difficult work. We started out in a train trimmed with Lincoln banners, but in spite of the banners and in spite of Blair's earnest speeches, we did not get a cheer for Lincoln all the way from Niles to Detroit.

At first there was great lethargy in the party because of Lincoln's nomination. I remember that I had returned to my boyhood in Gloucester, Mass. When we tried to organize a "Wide Awake" club I was sent to ask our most public spirited leader to preside and he refused me. He said, "Here is a time when this nation sorely needs a statesman, you who were over at Chicago have gone and nominated a rail splitter. I will have nothing to do with the party."

But in spite of the first lethargy, it was realized that with the opposition, split three ways, we had a chance. Furthermore, Seward jumped into the campaign in a most earnest and capable way. He went strongly after New England and the vote of his own state. He gave up all his time for four months and traveled as far west as Lawrence, Kan., in behalf of Lincoln. As the campaign progressed popular acclaim for Lincoln increased. We know that he was triumphantly elected. Against human counsels the election of a man was brought to pass whose humanity and whose statesmanship the whole world delights to honor.

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*history
of michigan*
THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION will hold its next annual meeting in Detroit, April 30 to May 2 inclusive, 1925.

The Association comes to Michigan by invitation of the Detroit Historical Society, the City of Detroit, the University of Michigan, the Michigan Historical Commission, the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, and Governor Groesbeck for the State of Michigan.

The mission of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association is to tell the story of the Middle West. It is a story

that runs back more than 300 years. From the time when De Soto with his band of Spanish soldiers explored the unknown regions of the southern valley and left his body in the waters of the great river, down to the present day when industries and farms and commerce produce the wealth that De Soto sought, is a story of development that has been insufficiently known and incompletely told.

It is a tale abounding in romance. Back in the days when Cabeza de Vaca and his three companions marched across country from Florida to Mexico and Friar Marcos with Little Steve, his negro scout, discovered the cities of Cibola with their fabled treasures and paved the way for the expedition of Coronado, the valley of the Mississippi was a land that loomed big in the dreams of the Spaniard.

A century later Indian tales of a great river flowing down to the sea came to the ears of the French Jesuits preaching in the wilderness and along the rivers and lakes of Canada. Priest and fur trader listened to the tales and from the north there came down into the valley Radisson and Groseilliers, Marquette and Joliet, Father Hennepin and the fur hunter Duluth, LaSalle and his trusty lieutenant Henry de Tonti. These men found that the Mississippi, instead of flowing into the Vermillion Sea which we know now as the Gulf of California, emptied its waters into the Gulf of Mexico.

Following the explorations came settlements, at the mouth and here and there on the banks of the river. Forts grew into villages. The jealous Indian protested, waged the only kind of warfare he knew, and lost. French, Spanish and Americans struggled for possession, and international treaties tossed the right of ownership of the western valley back and forth for many years.

New Orleans and Natchez, Kaskaskia and St. Louis became known in the East. Floods of migrations began to find their way down the westward flowing rivers. Political institutions grew up, industries took root and thrived, towns grew to cities

and the Mississippi Valley took a place in the nation, the importance of which politically, commercially and industrially, is just beginning to be realized.

Who shall search out and keep the record of this growth? The eastern historian is not so much interested in the tale, for he does not realize so keenly what has been done. The task belongs to the Valley, and for this end the Mississippi Valley Historical Association has come into being. It is probably not too much to say that the civilization which the Middle West creates within the next fifty years will be the American civilization.

An English writer recently said, "The Middle West is the true America. The gay Orientalism of New York, the rigid dignities of Boston, the laughter and languors of the South . . . these things are not essentially American. The true America is in the Middle West. . . The Far West is still to a great extent a pioneer country, just as the East is to a great extent a traditional country. The true American spirit is a blend of traditionalism and pioneering, and that is what is found in the Middle West."

Again the same writer says: "The Middle West can afford to trust a future of which the present is merely the vestibule. I like to think of the time to come when the ledges between the Lakes have been dredged out, and when the fleets of the world will come sailing up the St. Lawrence, through the Lakes, and moor opposite the Congress Hotel, there to unload the spices of India and the caviar of the Black Sea."

That energy of the West which has entered the current of national development is becoming known, and the recognition of the part played by the Mississippi Valley in the development of the United States is the most distinctive characteristic of present-day research in the field of American history.

But only in part have the facts been unearthed. Their immense importance, not only to the people of the Valley itself but alike to those of the land to the east and to the far

west, makes it imperative that a definite and vigorously interested organization should undertake the careful and systematic study of the history of this region.

In October, 1907, seven men connected with state historical societies in the Mississippi Valley met at Lincoln, Nebraska, at the invitation of the secretary of the Nebraska State Historical Society. These seven men were: Clarence S. Paine, secretary of the Nebraska State Historical Society; Benjamin F. Shambaugh of the State Historical Society of Iowa; Francis A. Sampson of the State Historical Society of Missouri; George W. Martin of the Kansas State Historical Society; Edgar R. Harlan of the Historical Department of Iowa; Warren Upham of the Minnesota Historical Society; and William S. Bell of the Montana Historical and Miscellaneous Library. They discussed purposes and plans, effected a temporary organization and adopted a tentative constitution.

In December of the same year a meeting was held at Madison, Wisconsin, in connection with the meeting of the American Historical Association, and the Mississippi Valley Historical Association was permanently organized, officers elected and a permanent constitution adopted.

The first annual meeting took place in June, 1908, at Lake Minnetonka, Minnesota, and was one which gave promise for a successful organization. Two meetings have been held each year since 1908, an annual meeting in April or May and a mid-winter meeting in connection with the annual meeting of the American Historical Association. This is the eighteenth annual meeting which will be held in Detroit the coming May.

The organization of this Association scarcely requires justification, since its appropriateness must appeal to every citizen of the great Valley. The history of the West was for many generations that of a single territory rather than of the separate divisions we call states. Under France, Spain, England, and the United States there was never that particularistic development which was so marked a characteristic of

the history of the eastern colonies. This unity of development is responsible for calling into being this Association which interests itself in the history of the Valley as a whole, while the state and local societies devote themselves to researches into the conditions of a more restricted area.

The Association calls together in its annual meetings the active workers from all the states in the Valley, and here there is offered an opportunity of forming useful acquaintances and of participating in the discussion of problems that are of common interest.

Conferences consider various subjects relating to the administration of societies and the relation of state and local societies, the collection and preservation of manuscripts, and the publication of material.

Committees investigate and report upon a variety of subjects, such as the teaching of American History in elementary and High Schools, State history as a part of the High School curriculum, the establishment of departments of State history in State universities, the certification of High School teachers of history, the place of Normal Schools in preparing High School teachers of History, the administration of Historical Societies, State Historical Museums, the relation of Historical Societies and Departments of History, the standardization of Historical Society publications and standardizing Library work and Library equipment in High Schools.

Indeed all phases of active historical work that are being done in the various parts of the territory are thus passed in review and the best methods discussed.

The work of the Association is the result of well organized development. The field is large and almost untilled. We of the West have been too occupied in hewing our way through the forests, in the cultivation of the soil and in building our cities to ask the question, "How has it been done?" But the time has come when that question is asked, and it is the business of this Association to answer it.

That the people of the Middle West have become interested in their past is shown by the present active life in the historical societies. Another evidence of this awakened spirit may be found in the discussion of methods of co-operation between various historical agencies of the great West. Out of this field of common interest and the need of united efforts there has been evolved the Mississippi Valley Historical Association.

The good work has been well begun, but it needs the co-operation of everyone interested in the history of the region from the Rio Grande to the Great Lakes, and from the Gulf of Mexico to the mountains of Idaho.

Membership in the Mississippi Valley Historical Association is open to every one who is interested in the reading or study of history upon the payment of the annual membership dues of five dollars. Members receive the *Review* and *Proceedings* without other expense. The *Michigan History Magazine* recommends the Association to every business man who is interested in history, to every librarian of public or college libraries, and to every teacher and student of history.

LIBRARIAN W. W. BISHOP of the University of Michigan General Library, desires the assistance of our readers in finding certain numbers of the old *Detroit Gazette*.

Mr. Bishop, as is well known to many, has for some time been engaged in making a complete reproduction of the file of the *Gazette*, principally from four libraries, namely, the Burton Historical Collection, the Library of Congress, the Wisconsin State Historical Society, and the Buffalo Public Library. He has been unable to find any copies whatever of the nine following numbers for 1829-30; for 1829, Sept. 10 and 24, Oct. 15, 22 and 29, and Nov. 26; for 1830, March 11 and 18, and April 15.

We would be obliged to any one who may chance to have these copies, or who know where they can be obtained, if they will communicate this fact to Mr. Bishop so that he may obtain photostat negatives of these numbers to be included in the forthcoming issue of Vol. XIII of the *Gazette*. It is a special feature of this work that the file, which subscribers will have, will be far more complete than the files now existing in any library, as Mr. Bishop and his helpers have been able to bring together from these scattered sources prints of numbers lacking in the Detroit file and, in many cases, in the other files known to exist.

Another interesting feature is the fact that he has kept all of the negatives and had them filed in order so that he can at any time reproduce at a minimum of cost any page which an investigator desires to have copied. He has negatives for the whole of the *Kentucky Gazette*, issued in the eighteenth century, and for the *Detroit Gazette* during its first thirteen volumes. Anyone desiring reproductions of any page can obtain positive prints at the cost of a single operation.

IN THE Magazine for last July was published Miss Pollard's paper "Michigan as a Field for Genealogical Work," in which it was stated that although marriage records were filed with the office of Secretary of State from 1867 on, it was not until 1887 for marriages and 1906 for births and deaths that these State records were satisfactory.

Through correspondence with county clerks, Miss Pollard found that no Michigan counties have birth and death records dated before 1830, and that only two counties have birth and death records dated before 1860. The tabulation of data which she has compiled for the various counties upon returns received from county clerks is worthy of careful attention and reflection.

Michigan is not alone in her neglect of early records. Miss Brown, of the Michigan State Library, finds but three states which make legislative appropriations for collecting and publishing vital statistics, namely, Connecticut, Maine, and Massachusetts.

The Connecticut Historical Society, since 1918, has received from the State an annual appropriation of \$1000, paid quarterly to the treasurer of the Society upon order of the Comptroller. Six volumes of records have been issued by the Society, two compiled by the Order of Founders and Patriots, two by the Society of Colonial Wars, and two by the Historical Society. Other vital records have been privately printed.

The Maine Historical Society, since 1903, has received annually from the State \$1000 for this purpose.

Massachusetts leads all of the states. Some twenty years ago an amount not to exceed \$15,000 was authorized to be expended for this purpose in any one year. The New England Historic and Genealogical Society has published the largest number of vital records for Massachusetts, the expense being partially met by funds from certain bequests, such as the Systematic History fund, Eddy Town Record fund, etc. The Essex Institute has published several volumes, also the Society of Mayflower descendants, and several of the Towns.

In other New England states, creditable work has been done privately. New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and the old Southern states have shown much interest along this line. But in the Middle West, and in the Far West, research for vital records has had only minor expression. This is to be regretted. The breaking of family ties due to westward migration has obscured to a great extent the facts of kinship with the people of the older settled communities of the East, and not infrequently the solution of historical problems of importance is involved.

In recent years the influence of the leading patriotic societies has come to be felt in our western states, particularly the work of the Daughters of the American Revolution, who

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have undertaken quite systematically through the various local Chapters to stimulate interest in collecting vital records, and the results on the whole are beginning to tell. In Michigan, notably in two counties, Oakland and Hillsdale, the work has advanced near to completion for the earlier periods.

In Oakland County the General Richardson Chapter D.A.R. has compiled the Marriage Records of the county for the period 1827-1850. These records, copied and arranged by Mrs. Edward V. Howlett, and verified by Mrs. Lillian Drake Avery, have been neatly typed, handsomely bound, and in this form presented to the Michigan Historical Commission for preservation in fire-proof vaults. Another volume, similarly typed and bound, contains Cemetery Records of Oakland County; other volumes to follow. The latter volume was compiled by a D.A.R. committee composed of Mrs. Edward V. Howlett, Miss Ella L. Smith, Mrs. Birum G. Campbell, Mrs. William D. Kelly and Mrs. Lillian D. Avery, assisted by Mrs. Arthur Green of Walled Lake and others who occasionally gave a helping hand. The volume contains a carefully prepared index. This work is an expression of the finest public spirit. It has been entirely voluntary. It is very worthy of assistance from the State, especially in the matter of putting these records in printed form and making them more generally accessible to the public.

The work that has been done in Hillsdale County is told in a very interesting manner in a paper by Mrs. Vivian Lyon Moore which is published in this number of the Magazine.

In recognition of the opportunity that is before the State of Michigan in this work, the Michigan Historical Commission is requesting from the present Legislature \$1000 in aid of it, and to those who are interested we would say that your representatives in House and Senate would doubtless be glad to know of your interest.

These names which we would rescue from oblivion are the names of our pioneers.

FROM WILLIAM F. GAGNIEUR, S. J. Indian Missionary, we have received certain corrections and additions to articles on Indian Place-Names which appeared in the *Michigan History Magazine* in July, 1918, pp. 526 following, and in July, 1919, pp. 412 following, by the same writer. He says about *Les Cheneaux* (p. 530): I found shortly after my article was published, that on a very old map in an 18th century book, the name is printed as it is today; Les Cheneaux, or at least Cheneaux. This would prove that in those days they still used a very old French spelling of the modern "Chenaux."

How far would this destroy the value of my other arguments?

1. It would leave intact what I wrote about the Indian name: Anaminang, a name surely more ancient than "Cheneaux," or "Les Cheneaux."

2. It could have happened that the explorer and writer got the name from a French-Indian guide and possibly could have confounded "Chez-nous," with "Cheneaux" or Les Cheneaux.

3. The tradition that Anaminang was considered as a place of safety (from storms) and a chez-nous, by French or French-Indian travelers seems to me to be very old, may be older than the name Les Cheneaux, for it is certainly a very natural way of expressing their feelings.

4. Had I however met this name on that map, before I published my article I would have modified some of my expressions and given to Les Cheneaux a more prominent place.

5. All I have written about "Chez-nous" still remains interesting and to a certain extent "History" even though its actual value be somewhat reduced.

6. It remains true just the same that to the Indian mind, the idea of "Channels" was and is altogether secondary.

Assabikeshi (p. 533). The meaning: The to-be-pitied net-maker, speculatively speaking could probably be justified, but I would rather admit that I confounded two terminations very much alike: "ish" and "esh" or "eshi." The latter, "eshi" is apparently the same as "sse" or "si" referring to an insect. Hence the word Assabikeshi is simply the insect net-maker. This name for the "Spider" seems to be confined altogether to the Saulteux, or Otchipways, and likely Ottawas. The Algonquins call it: "Eebik." The Lenape or Delawares "Mikapollotis."

Neebish (p. 534). What I say there, that Neebish in the Ottawa dialects means "dirty water," I would have written more correctly had I put "bad water." Of course it is also used for dirty water, but not for that alone. Since I wrote about the "foliage" (which I believe is nearly right) I heard a derivation, rather poetical, to the effect that if one stand, say on Rain's Dock, and look toward the island (Neebish) said Island looks like a "leaf." Since I wrote that article, I saw on an old map the name, "Anipicing"; the "e" being used, especially by Algonquin missionaries, for our "sh." This helped to confirm me in my derivation of the name, "Anipicing," or "Anipishing," being the name of a place called "the leaf" or by extension, "foliage."

Shelldrake (p. 538). By a "lapsus calami" I wrote "cross bill," for "sawbill."

Pictured Rocks. They also call it "Iskkaibikong"—Last Rocks; this is probably the more correct.

Ontonagon (p. 544). I would like to note that Rev. Bishop Baraga's legend is not so current among the Indians as I thought it was. I met an old Indian, and one who seemed well posted, and he maintained, strongly, that Mr. Godin's (Gordon's) derivation of the name was the only correct one.

Timakinang (p. 552). I wonder why I did not think of what now appears to me a simple and clear explanation. Timakinang (Tee-makinang) is to me nothing more than a

corruption of Petit Makinang—i.e. Little Mackinac (Island). We often hear among the uneducated, who speak French, and even among good speakers, in a very colloquial way, "Ti" for "Petit."

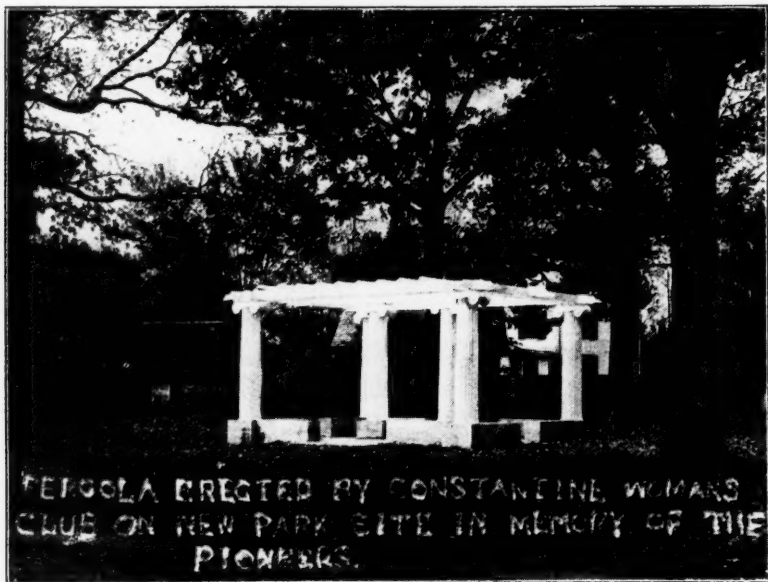
Ottawa in Magazine for July, 1919, p. 412 ff. (p. 415). As I intimated there, the meanings of that word are very uncertain, and seem also very unsatisfactory. Now I noticed that a certain Indian called Shegonebi, was often referred to as "Dowa." (Towa) This sat me thinking. If I mistake not we have the same word in the name of a certain town Dowagiac. I knew that Pontiac should be Bwan-diac. "Diac" still puzzles me; but "Bwan" is the Saulteux name for the Sioux Indians. "Dowa" must refer to the Ottawa, so I surmised. In Otchipwa, Otawag means "ear"; in "composition" the "o" goes out and also some times the "g", thus leaving tawa (dawa) as the root. The Lenape or Delaware Dialect, very closely connected philologically with the Otchipwe, Ottawa, and Algonquin, has: Wittawa—"ear." Still I was not making much headway, as I could not see how "ear" would designate a tribe of Indians. One day however I found a note (foot-note) in Rev. J. B. A. Ferland's valuable *Histoire du Canada*. This note is given on the authority of the great Sulpician Missionary, Rev. M. Belcourt. On page 128, vol. 1, this note may be found. Translated it reads: "Otwag, those who have ears; name given to one of the great Algonquin (Algie) tribes, comes from the practice still followed (in Father Belcourt's day) in certain places of splitting the ear from top to bottom, and then inserting bands of skin or other material. This operation rendered the ears very large."

THE current issue of the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* has for its leading articles: "Anti-Slavery Tendencies of the Democratic Party in the Northwest, 1848-50," by Professor William O. Lynch, University of Indiana; "The Mississippi Valley and the Constitution, 1815-1829," by Mr. Curtis Nettels, University of Wisconsin; "Major Lawrence Taliaferro, Indian Agent," by Willoughby M. Babcock, Jr., Minnesota Historical Society; "The Efforts of the Democratic Societies of the West to Open the Navigation of the Mississippi," by Professor E. Merton Coulter, University of Georgia; an important document, "William Trent's Journal at Fort Pitt, 1763," edited by Professor A. T. Volwiler, Wittenburg College.

IT HAS BEEN determined that the next piece of editorial work of major importance to be undertaken by the Burton Historical Collection will be the editing of the papers of John Askin. It is anticipated that the work, which has been underway for some months, will require two or more years to complete, and will result in the publication of two or possibly three volumes of source material. Askin was a Britisher of Scotch descent who, after a short partnership with Major Robert Rogers in New York, came out to Mackinac about the time of Rogers' advent there, where he made his headquarters until 1780; in that year he removed to Detroit, which continued to be his home for twenty-two years, when he crossed the river to a point opposite Belle Isle and there lived until his death many years later. For practically fifty years he was actively engaged in the fur trade and other merchandizing enterprises, both on the American and Canadian side. He was prominent in commercial and public affairs; hence his papers, preserved in the Burton Collection, constitute a valuable source of historical information concerning many phases of the life of the period to which they pertain.

THE Burton Historical Collection *Leaflet* contains in recent numbers some interesting articles from the pen of Dr. Milo M. Quaife, Secretary-Editor of the Burton Historical Collection. The last number (November) presents a thoughtful study of the career of Detroit's Presidential Candidate, Lewis Cass. In the preceding number, giving "Some Glimpses of Life in Ancient Detroit," Dr. Quaife observes: History is to the community what memory is to the individual. Unlike the individual, however, whose memory is a personal possession which always perishes with him, the community memory may be renewed from time to time, and prolonged to succeeding generations if only care be taken to preserve and cherish its store of historic records. At least a passing interest in the life of the past is shared by all intelligent men, but only the zealous delver among historical records is likely to realize how fascinating the contents of these documents, oftentimes yellowed with age and fragile from exposure to the elements, may become. "The circus," observes a recent writer, "isn't the greatest show on earth; the greatest show on earth is the performance of mankind." It is this show of which the student of history enjoys an intimate and unobstructed view.

WE UNDERSTAND from Jane L. Hicks, Librarian of the Dearborn Publishing Co., that a History of the Ford Motor Co. is in process of preparation. A complete and comprehensive history of the automobile industry in Michigan is much desired. Careful histories of the various plants prepared by the respective companies would help. Mr. Earl G. Fuller, graduate student in the Hist. Dept. of the University of Michigan, has accepted invitation of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society to lay the foundations for such a general history and will discuss this subject at the next annual meeting of the State Historical Society.



A pioneer graveyard turned into a pretty park with the Pergola as its most striking feature. In the spring climbing roses, clematis and wistaria will be planted at the corners and encouraged to twine around the beautiful old pillars and cover the timbered roof. Pillars of the Pergola are the same which upheld the porch of "the Old Homestead," pioneer hostelry of Constantine. Structure 17 x 21 feet, with fifty feet of bench space, designed to accommodate gatherings for a pioneer story hour on summer evenings.

MR. FRED C. HIRZEL, of Midland, Mich., is arousing much interest in some old friends of his. He is a lover of trees. No doubt what he says below will find warm response in the hearts of many of our readers:

Michigan Historical Society,
Lansing, Michigan.

Gentlemen:

In the October 24th issue of the *Detroit News* I read of the destruction near Kalamazoo, of Michigan's tallest elm tree by a Fort Wayne Company who have manufactured this historic tree into barrel staves and hoops. The article states that the Historical Society would have gladly paid a much higher price than that received by the owner had they known it was in danger.

This crying over spilled milk or locking the barn after the horse is stolen has never gotten us anywhere. No doubt the society has already heard of that probably most wonderful of all Michigan elm trees which was laid low last winter in Antrim County as described by Albert Stoll, Jr., in the March 15 issue of the *Detroit News*. That wonderful tree which started to grow there 403 years ago, or as Stoll says—"Ninety-nine years before the Pilgrim fathers set foot on American soil or just 29 years after Columbus discovered America." It is said that 17 perfectly sound and straight logs were cut from this tree and that when made into lumber, 5,290 board feet became available for market. Today all that is left of that monarch of the forest is the rotting stump of what last winter was (I presume) the oldest living thing in Michigan.

I am enclosing a clipping from the *Grand Rapids Press* showing picture of a gigantic pine which I believe is still standing in Missaukee County. This may not have come to your notice and the tree may be the largest still standing in the lower peninsula anyway. I am calling the matter to your attention as no doubt you will be interested in seeing that the necessary steps are taken to preserve it.

It is my opinion that not only this tree but the remainder of the tract of which it is a part, should be secured for a state park.

Sincerely,

[Signed] Fred C. Hirzel.

THE Three Oaks Historical Society is enjoying this season a very interesting program. Sept. 10, Mrs. E. K. Warren led in relating experiences of auto tours. Oct. 8 Mrs. M. A. Wilson gave reminiscences of old families of the Three Oaks region. Nov. 12 Prof. Robert M. Wenley of the University of Michigan gave an address on "The

Philosophy of History." Dec. 10 the Society indulged in a discussion of old time medical remedies. Jan. 14 Mr. John Portinga told of wells and well-digging in that region.

On Feb. 11 Dr. R. E. Meade will give an illustrated talk, entitled, "Through the West." March 11 Ed. J. Stevens of Kalamazoo, Secretary-Treasurer of the Michigan State Archaeological Society, will give a paper on "The Story of Old Fort St. Joseph." For April 8 there is planned a resumé of the historical activities of the year in Michigan, in a symposium by those present; each will be invited to tell what he or she considers the biggest "pioneer" event of the year ("pioneering," it is understood is always going on in every walk of life); at the close of the discussion a vote will be taken to determine which event among those narrated is accorded the most important "pioneer" event of the year.

May 13 will be "pioneers day," the annual Three Oaks "homecoming," one of the most delightful occasions of the year.

According to a statement from the Secretary, Mr. Geo. R. Fox, the Society has increased in membership from 40 in 1916 to 386 in 1924.

THE citizens of Eaton Rapids are to be congratulated upon their progress in promoting a community Museum. The thoroughness of their plans in organizing public Sentiment is a model, and we are pleased to print the entire statement which appeared in the Lansing State *Journal* under date of Nov. 8:

Eaton Rapids, Nov. 8.—The Community Museum committee was organized at a meeting held at the high school Wednesday evening. Mrs. W. A. Horner was elected chairman, and Arthur Knowlton, secretary. The board of education has turned over full direction of the new museum to this committee. Miss Bessie Hyde will act as caretaker for the museum.

All citizens who have curios or relics they would like to loan or give to the museum are urged to get in touch with any one of the following members of this committee: U and I club, Mrs. Will Horner; Knights of Pythias, Arthur Knowlton; History club, Mrs. Will Hall; Pioneer club, Mrs. D. M. Beman; Good Will club, Mrs. Seward Haite; G. A. S., Mrs. Clara Honeywell; Grange, Mrs. Herb Gilman; High School Alumni, W. Scott Munn; Masons, Linus Fowler; L. O. T. M., Mrs. Eugene Van Deusen; Maccabees, Geo. Merritt; Pythian Sisters, Mrs. Dan Willis; O. E. S., Mrs. Wallace Knapp; G. A. R., Sam Webber; W. R. C., Mrs. Sam Webber; Kiwanis club, Rev. A. D. Werden; Board of Education, Supt. M. J. Martin.

WHAT has been known as the Michigan Room in the Bay City Public Library is to become the Bay County Historical Museum. The Bay County Historical Society is appealing to all the people of Bay County for donations of historical relics to this Collection, which it is hoped will some day be of sufficient size to command a building of its own. The Collection has grown already to ample proportions. Mrs. Irene Pomeroy Shields, of the Bay County Historical Society has done much to further this project. Another item of interest due to the initiative of Mrs. Shields is the making of "Pioneer Day" a fixed institution in connection with the annual exhibit of the Northeastern Michigan Fair Association, where the pioneers may gather and make themselves at home and add their store of facts to help provide a faithful chronology of the great empire which this section embraces.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MICHIGAN STATE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, GREETING:

The meeting of the Society held in Grand Rapids at the Kent Museum on Aug. 29 and 30, resulted in some very interesting sessions. The vandalism which is rapidly destroying Michigan's mounds and other antiquities was scored by many members present. Means of conservation were discussed.

The membership of the Michigan State Archeological Society at this writing (Dec. 1) is over 100. These will be considered as Charter members, the society by vote agreeing to keep the charter open until Dec. 31, 1924. The increase in membership shows that the need of such a society is appreciated. Already the organization has begun to do things and within the next few years should place Michigan permanently on the archeological map of America.

*

During the summer, in the months of July and August, Mr. Vreeland, assistant to Dr. Hinsdale in the department of Archeology at the University Museum, made a tour of investigation throughout the State, utilizing the car so kindly presented to the department by Henry Ford. His route took him up through the central part of the State and across the straits to St. Ignace where he visited the site of the exhumed skeletons, then back down through the western part of the southern peninsula. As a result of his work, a report of sixty pages was filed with Dr. Hinsdale. He made careful locations of many antiquities, and excavated one of the pits on the Missaukee preserve. Nothing proving in a definite manner the purpose of these pits, was found.

*

The Wisconsin Archeological Society shows the true brotherly spirit. In the Fall issue of their quarterly magazine, *The Wisconsin Archeologist*, they have devoted more than two pages to notes on Michigan archeology. The members of the Michigan State Archeological Society greatly appreciate this friendly spirit.

*

Mr. Walter L. Schmidt of Pinconning, one of the first to join the Society, has sent to President Fox extended notes on

his large and fine collection. Among these is a drawing of a copper ornament which Mr. Fox recognized as almost an exact duplicate of such a copper piece found by him on the west side of Little Lake Butte des Morts, near Neenah, in Wisconsin. As this was found near the site of the Fox and Sauk stockade where the Indians defeated the French expedition, it seems a fair inference that this type of ornament was made by the Sauks, as they once lived in the region about Saginaw Bay where now stands Pinconning. The ornament found by Mr. Fox is in the Historical Museum at Madison, Wis.

*

A mound still in a good state of preservation and unknown to state archeologists has been reported to Secretary Stevens as lying in a marsh between Lawrence and Hartford. A visit showed it to be about ten feet in height and fifty feet in diameter. It had been dug into on one side. The *Kalamazoo Gazette* in its issue of Nov. 16 printed a picture of this mound with full description.

*

On page 390, Volume 12 of the *Michigan Pioneer and Historical Collections* is a record for Ontwa Township, Cass County, of ten Indian mounds near Adamsville. Secretary Stevens called the attention of Mr. D. P. Smith of Cassopolis to this record and Mr. Smith visited Adamsville. The mounds are still to be seen there, being on section 12, in a woods. Only seven now remain, although these are in a good state of preservation.

*

Dr. Hinsdale has been much in demand with his lecture "Primitive Man in Michigan." In the last few months he has spoken many times before clubs and other organizations, in Grand Rapids, Saginaw, Ann Arbor, Detroit, and elsewhere.

On Nov. 24, President Fox gave a lecture on "Prehistoric America" before an audience of 2,000 students of the Michigan State Normal College at Ypsilanti. This was illustrated by 100 unique pictures.

*

Dr. Hinsdale's book on the *Archeology of Michigan* is almost ready for the printer. The Regents of the University have ordered the work published and have provided the funds. This will be one of the best books on archeology available. Examination of the manuscript shows that Dr. Hinsdale has adopted the standpoint of the true scholar. In his discussion of the facts, he presents all theories, and the reasons adduced both for and against these, without introducing personal bias, and lets the student decide for himself. It is a work which should be placed in every school. The book will be elaborately illustrated with pictures of artifacts, mounds, enclosures, and hundreds of other antiquities, all bearing on Michigan.

GEORGE R. FOX, President,
Three Oaks, Michigan.

THE *Immigration and Early History of the People of Zeeland, Ottawa County, Michigan, in 1847*, by Anna Kremer Keppel, is a neat little pamphlet of 45 pages printed by the *Zeeland Record Press*, Zeeland, Michigan. Chapters X and XI are devoted particularly to Zeeland, covering its settlement, and early social, industrial and educational life. The larger portion is devoted to a study of the free church movement in the Netherlands in the early part of the nineteenth century. Much use has been made of source material, particularly the *Journal of Jannes Van de Luijster*, the founder of Zeeland.

I REMEMBER WHEN—, published by the *Evening News*, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, is a pleasing little brochure of recollections of old times in the Sault, contributed by readers of the *News*.

This one, which will answer for the rest, was sent in by B. F. Kelly, 217 Johnstone Street,—it is entitled, "Who Won the Heifer?":

I remember when old Mr. Nolte was one of the very few farmers of Chippewa county. His homestead is still known as the Nolte farm. He lived in the Soo about where the Hanley House now stands. Boulders and a large forest of evergreen brush featured the landscape about his home.

Joe Campbell, better known as Uncle Joe, lived about where the Portage Avenue Coast Guard station is, better known as "down the road." Uncle Joe and his family were among the best known and most popular entertainers of their time. The Laramie family lived near Uncle Joe on the south side of the road.

Hon. George W. Brown lived near the corner of the Mission Street on the south side of the road. Horn cattle roamed at large in those days and herded regardless of owners. In the fall of 1872 when owners began to gather in their stock of horn cattle a question of ownership of a young heifer arose between Mr. Nolte and Mr. Laramie. Mr. Nolte had possession of the animal in question and insisted that he was the owner. Mr. Laramie haled Nolte into court to prove that he was the rightful owner.

As I remember now, Hon. Judge Ashmun presided. Hon. George W. Brown was attorney for Laramie and Hon. Judge Robins was attorney for Nolte. The case was called. The court took the regular routine for record. Mr. Laramie on the stand sworn in, his attorney at once commenced to question.

Q—What is your name?

A—Joe Laramie.

Q—Where do you live, Mr. Laramie?

A.—Down the road.

Q—Where down the road do you live, Mr. Laramie?

A—Down near Joe Campbell.

Q—Where does Joe Campbell live Mr. Laramie?

A—You don't know where Joe Campbell lives? Well—

I—be—d——d!

Who won the case is not material in this letter.

AMONG THE BOOKS

OUR BEGINNINGS IN EUROPE AND AMERICA; HOW CIVILIZATION GREW IN THE OLD WORLD AND CAME TO THE NEW. By Smith Burnham, A.M. Head of the Department of History, Western State Normal School, Kalamazoo, Michigan. With Illustrations and Maps. The John C. Winston Co., Phila., 1918, pp. 375. Price \$0.96.

THE MAKING OF OUR COUNTRY; A HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES FOR SCHOOLS. By Smith Burnham. Illustrated with three hundred and thirty-four engravings in black and white, fifty-one maps, and eight color plates from the J. L. G. Ferris collection of American historical paintings, by special permission of the artist. The John C. Winston Co., Phila., 1921, pp. 600 + app. 31. Price \$3.00.

HERO TALES FROM HISTORY. Illustrated. By Smith Burnham. The John C. Winston Co., Phila., 1922, pp. 377. Price \$0.90.

These volumes by Prof. Burnham strike a significant note in the history teaching of today. It is clear that he believes one of the main aims in teaching history in the schools is to lead young people to *love* history, and to *think* their way through to its *meaning*. The material in the volumes is both selected and presented to fit the stage of mental development of the students. The "helps" that accompany the chapters are adapted to lead students to think, instead of merely to memorize the text.

Indeed, to know the "facts" of history, however important as a foundation, is not to "know history." If a student could know perfectly all of the facts contained in any text-book of American history, he would of course know relatively little about the great ocean of experience which makes up the life of the American people, and particularly would this be true if only those facts were emphasized which relate to the so-called "internal" history of the country. Teachers are coming to agree that the real significance of American history lies in its relations with world history, and this viewpoint Prof. Burnham has kept clearly in mind in this series. The result is a dynamic view of America's part in preserving and developing those ideals of national life which make for the betterment of the race.

An intelligent study of these three volumes can not but make students eager to read more history after they leave school, to read it intelligently, and to *love* it for what it *means* for the highest ideals of personal and institutional life, and what they *love* they will defend.

WE EXPLORE THE GREAT LAKES. By Webb Waldron. Pictured by Marion Patton Waldron. The Century Co., N. Y., 1923, pp. 384. Price \$3.50.

Mr. Webb Waldron, Michigan man, author of the *Road to the World*, and his interesting wife "Pat," are the sort of folk one likes to travel with. They see things that are hidden from the natural eye. They get away from the beaten path, and reveal to us the life of the spirit in nature and humans. They travel unconventionally, and tell what they saw, with a reasonable degree of conventionality. There is a wholesome vigor in everything Mr. Waldron writes. "Pat's" black and white sketches are in keeping. Those who know the Great Lakes will relish this book. Those who do not will want to make the trip "as early as convenient" after reading it.

A most charming chapter in the book is that entitled, "My Isle of Dreams," which recounts sundry interesting experiences on Isle Royale in Lake Superior. Here is an item of conversation with an old prospector and miner, Alfred Merritt.

"Why does Isle Royale belong to the United States instead of to Canada?" I asked.

Glance at the map and you will see the cause of my question. Like a gigantic blunt-headed, forty-mile-long fish that has taken a bite from the Canadian shore, Isle Royale lies across the mouth of Thunder Bay in the extreme northern angle of Lake Superior, one hundred and seventy miles northeast of Duluth. That it should belong to the United States and not Canada has always been as puzzling as that Guernsey and Jersey, over against the coast of France, belonged to England; as that St. Pierre and Miquelon, off the coast of Newfoundland, belonged to France.

"It's all due to Benjamin Franklin," said Mr. Merritt.

"Franklin? I didn't know he was ever up here."

"He wasn't. It happened in Paris, during the peace negotiations after the American Revolution. The British had proposed the St. Louis River as the western terminal of the international boundary through Lake Superior. This was logical, because Lakes Ontario, Erie, and Huron had been divided by a line running approximately through the middle, from one extremity to the other. But Franklin had been prowling through old records of the French Fur Company in Paris, the predecessor of the Hudson Bay Company. He ran across some references to copper on Isle Royale. Copper caught his eye, probably, on account of his interest in electricity. In some way he managed to shift the boundary northward, to include Isle Royale, and he wrote home, 'We have Isle Royale and plenty of copper.'

"But, you see," Mr. Merritt went on, "being shoved northward to include Isle Royale, the international boundary didn't continue westward on the mainland by the St. Louis River but followed the Pigeon River, a hundred miles or so north of here. So, though Franklin did not bring to the United States the wealth of copper he imagined, he did, without realizing it, bring us a far greater treasure, the iron-mines of the Mesaba Range, the richest in the world."

Such is Merritt's explanation.

When I returned East, I vainly searched through all the editions of Franklin's Letters in the New York Public Library for a reference to Isle Royale; nor could I find any mention of it in the records of the Paris peace conference. The Treaty of Paris nowhere suggests a reason why the international boundary swerves "to the north of Isle Royale and the Isles Philippeaux." But in Volume XXVI of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society Collections I ran across an article by a writer named Annah May Soule, setting forth quite another reason why Isle Royale belongs to the United States. Miss Soule has examined all the documents of the period and explains that Franklin and his fellow peace commissioners insisted on a line from the Soo to Pigeon River because this was the route followed by the fur-traders on their way to the Lake of the Woods and the great Northwest. Naturally, she says, the Americans wanted a share in this highway. Isle Royale was mentioned simply to fix the line. Whether the course of the voyageurs was to the north or to the south of Isle Royale is uncertain, but it happened that on most old maps Isle Royale was shown considerably south of where it actually lies, so that the route to Pigeon River *appeared* to be north of it. Miss Soule also explains the mysterious Isles Philippeaux that appear on old maps between Isle Royale and the Keweenaw peninsula. The explanation is that there never were any Isles Philippeaux. They were the invention of some imaginative explorer.

Miss Soule's story seems to be better documented, but I prefer Mr. Merritt's. It amuses me to think of that canny figure in the fur cap, at the court of Louis XVI, as the unwitting advance-agent of the United States Steel Corporation.

THE STORY OF MICHIGAN. By Claude S. Larzelere, M.A., Head of the Department of History and Civics, Central State Normal School, Mt. Pleasant. Michigan Education Co., Lansing, 1924.

The sub-title of this publication well describes it: "A series of narratives in pamphlet form for use in the upper Grammar grades."

These pamphlets, neat to handle, bound in heavy gray paper with pleasing cover designs, vary in length from a dozen to thirty pages, in price from 10 to 25 cents. An admirably flexible way of making the story of Michigan available for supplementary reading. Any of the numbers is obtainable in quantity. Eleven numbers have thus far been published: Indian legends, coming of the white man, Marquette and Joliet, the first vessel on the Lakes, early days in Detroit, the old fur traders, Pontiac's conspiracy, George Rogers Clark, the early American regime, the war of 1812, and the Civil War.

Prof. Larzelere, as a practical teacher, keeping in view the child's mind and the teacher's problems, has succeeded in presenting these topics in a worth-while way. While the tests of historical criticism and scientific accuracy have obviously not been applied to the material used, the stories generally give fairly true pictures and correct ideas of the times dealt with and the events set forth. There has been apparently no attempt to secure historical "balance."

The educational value of local and State history is usually underrated by educators. While it is true that so far as government is concerned the individual State is playing a relatively less and less important role and that nationalism is growing, it is not desirable that State pride should be lost or that interest in the neighborhood should not be stimulated. By the study of local and State history the student can easily be made to see how institutions have developed, how present conditions have grown out of the past. And by this study he may be led to understand and interpret more easily and fully historical events and movements of a more general character. For example, the life of early settlers in the student's own town or county will be typical of pioneer life in general. The movement of people into the student's vicinity will illustrate well the general westward movement of population. The varieties of nationality in the school or community will show the composite character of the population of the United States. As said in another review, to have its greatest educational value, local and State history should not be isolated but should be put into proper relationship with the more general history of the country.

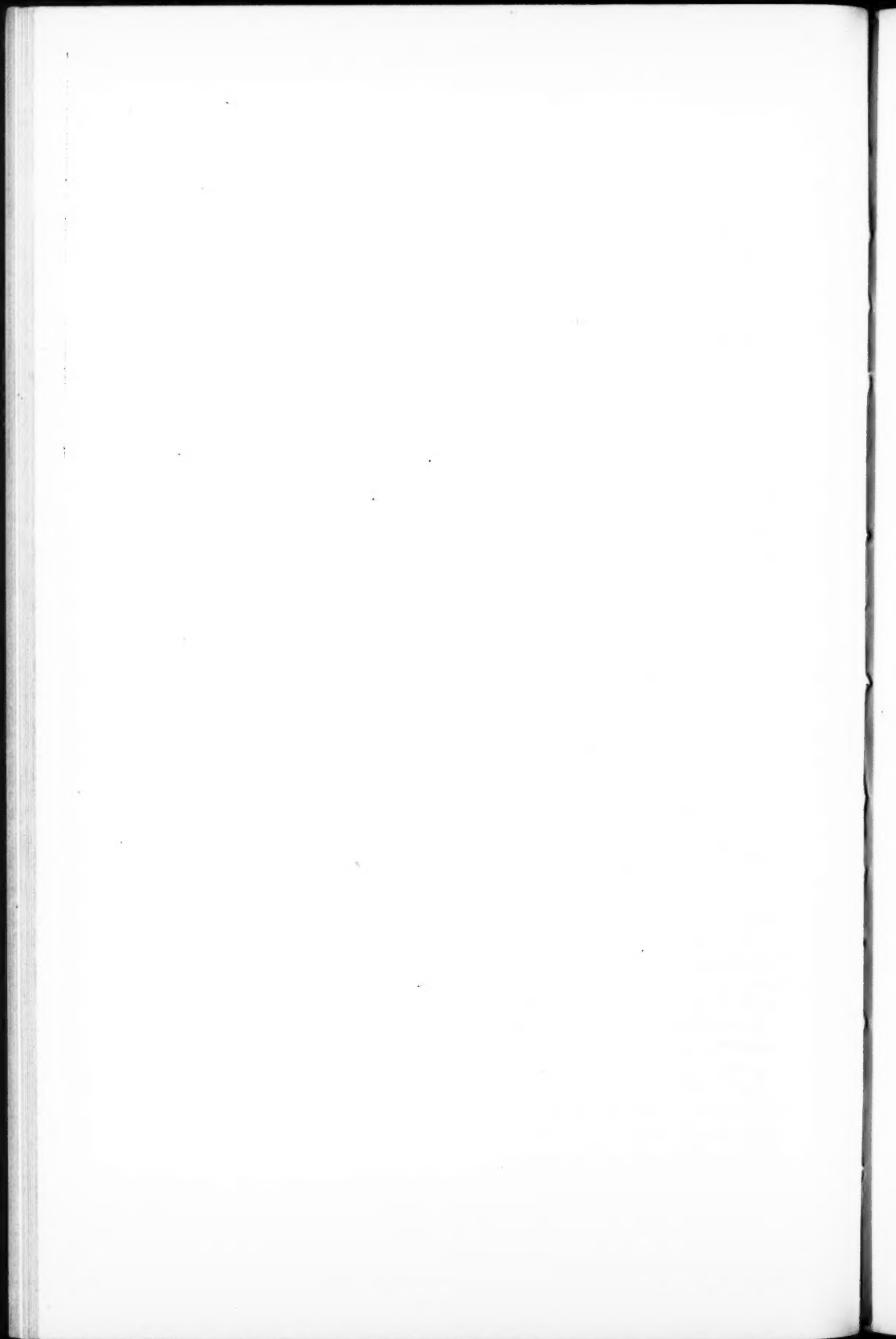
Young children are much interested in myths and legends. Every child will be captivated by the stories of Sleeping Bear, of Manabozho, of Mackinac Island, and the many other Indian legends of Michigan. This, of course, is not history, but such stories may well pave the way with children for the true history stories which may be supplied in plenty from the history of the State. At the age when children are hungry for stories of adventure, nothing could please them better

than accounts of the doings of French explorers, missionaries, fur traders, and *coureurs de bois* in the region of the Great Lakes. Marquette, LaSalle, and Cadillac are as attractive heroes and of quite as much historical importance to us in the Old Northwest as Captain John Smith, Miles Standish, or William Penn.

Would not some "punch" be added to the study of the transfer of French territory to the English at the close of the French and Indian War by reading how Major Rogers took possession of Detroit in the name of his Brittanic Majesty? For the boy in the blood-and-thunder stage, what a galaxy of good stories are furnished by Pontiac's Conspiracy. Hamilton, "the hair-buyer," and his capture by George Rogers Clark, the defeat of St. Clair and the victories of Wayne, Hull's surrender, the battle of the Raisin River, Perry's victory, and Tecumseh furnish more material of the same kind. As boys and girls get older they easily become interested in the social and industrial and political aspects of State history.

Teachers talk much in general terms in American history classes about the westward movement of population. All too seldom do they take actual typical cases of emigrants moving to the West by way of the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes, by the Cumberland Road and the Ohio River, or by other routes, bringing out the actual life on the road. By the study of the early settlement of the State students may often catch the spirit and enthusiasm of this westward movement in a way that cannot be done by a general treatment of the subject.

A study of early railroading in Michigan takes the student directly into the history of transportation in the United States. Stories of lumbering and log-driving on the rivers will interest the student in one of the great industries of the country. A Michigan forest fire leads into the big subject of conservation of natural resources. Attempted Fenian raids from Michigan into Canada will get them into close touch with the relations between England and Ireland. King Strang of the Beaver Islands remind of the Mormons. A study of the working of the underground railroad and stories of attempts to capture runaway slaves within the borders of the State, of which many are interesting, will bring home to the student the workings of the Fugitive Slave Law more effectively than much general discussion. Other topics such as "wild-cat" banking, early railroad building and growth of other means of transportation, development of the copper and iron industries in the Upper Peninsula, the part played by Michigan in the Civil War and World War, and the growth of our educational system are subjects that might well be treated in the *Story of Michigan*, in accord with the plan of the publishers to cover the entire story in this series.



MICHIGAN HISTORY MAGAZINE

VOLUME IX, 1925, No. 2

GEORGE N. FULLER, *Editor*

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